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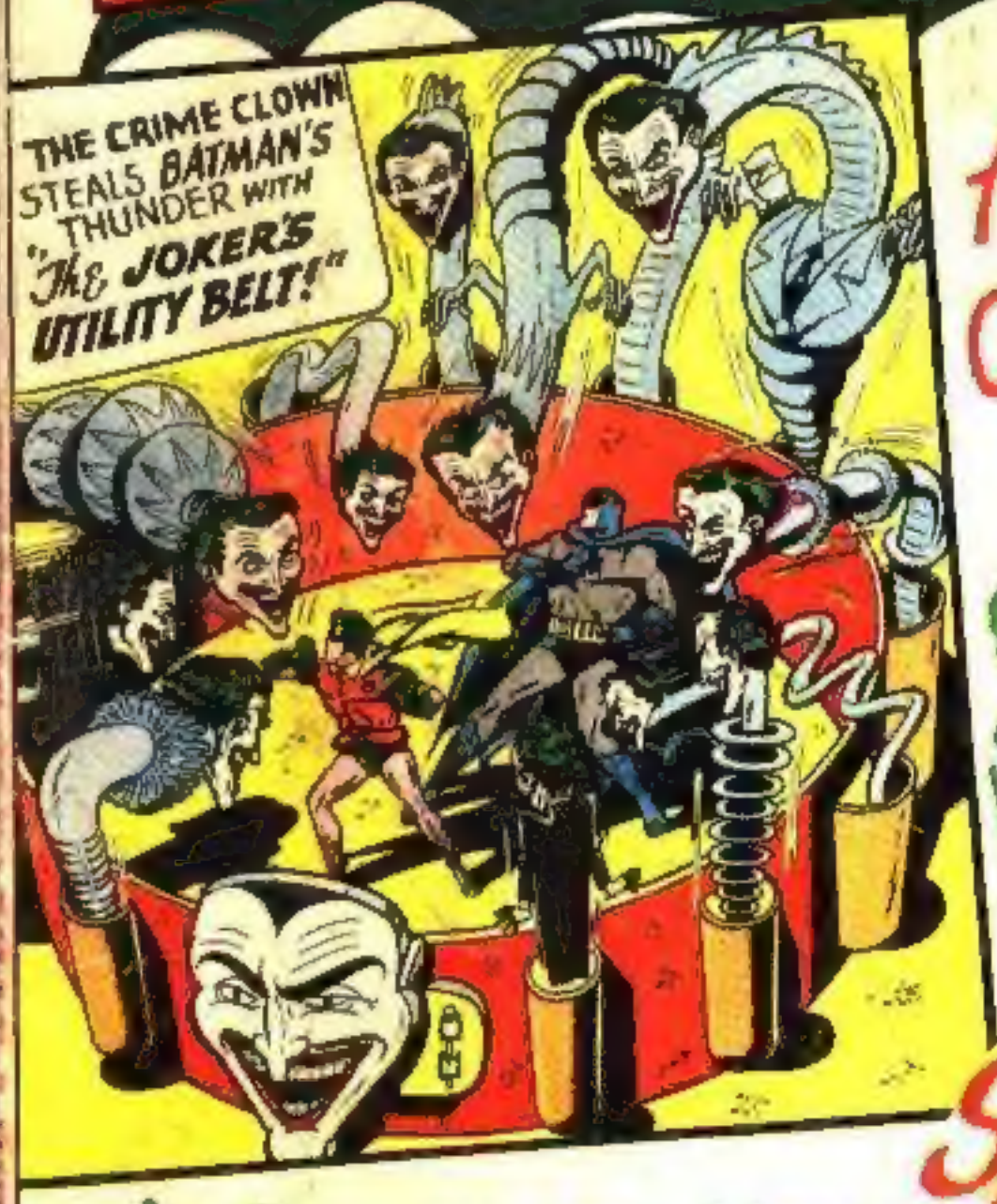
BAT MAN

BY POPULAR DEMAND...

BATMAN and ROBIN'S MOST FANTASTIC FOES!



Another STAR COLLECTION of SINISTER ARCH-VILLAINS!

Special

A COMPLETE NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY...

AND NOW I'LL HAVE THE MOST VALUABLE LIVE TROPHIES IN THE WORLD--BATMAN AND ROBIN FROZEN IN BLOCKS OF ICE!
featuring "The ICE CRIMES of MR. ZERO!"

featuring

CATWOMAN

PRINCESS of PLUNDER!

BATMAN and ROBIN FACE THE CHALLENGE OF A BIZARRE FOE... "THE CALENDAR MAN!"
GET BACK, ROBIN! HE'S BECOME A MAN OF FIRE--LIKE THE SUMMER SUN HE'S PORTRAYING!

BATMAN WITH ROBIN - THE BOY WONDER -

The PARASOLS of PLUNDER

YES... IT'S TRUE! THAT FABULOUS BIRDMAN, THE PENGUIN, IS GIVING UP BIRDS! FOR ONE THING, HE'S TIRED OF BEING A JAIL-BIRD! BUT DOES THIS MEAN THE PENGUIN HAS REFORMED? WELL, HARDLY... FOR DON'T FORGET THAT THE PENGUIN IS ALSO KNOWN AS "THE MAN OF 1,000 UMBRELLAS," AND WHEN HE SETS HIMSELF UP IN THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS, IT MEANS BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE TO TANGLE WITH...

BATMAN ENDORSES PENGUIN UMBRELLAS

BOB KANE

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IN THE UMBRELLA-MAKING SHOP OF GOTHAM PENITENTIARY, A GUARD BRINGS A MESSAGE TO A PRISONER... THE PENGUIN HIMSELF, THAT GROTESQUE BIRD OF ILL-OMEN...

THE WARDEN WANTS TO SEE ME? JUST AS SOON AS I FINISH INSERTING A RIB IN THIS MASTERPIECE OF THE UMBRELLA-MAKER'S ART!

PRESENTLY, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...

PENGUIN, YOU'VE BEEN A MODEL PRISONER, STARTING AN UMBRELLA SHOP FOR US AND SETTING AN EXAMPLE OF REAL INDUSTRY. SO THE PAROLE BOARD IS RELEASING YOU... ON ONE CONDITION!

YOUR BIRD CRIMES PUT YOU BEHIND BARS, SO YOU MUST PROMISE TO GIVE UP KEEPING BIRDS! THEY'RE TOO MUCH OF A TEMPTATION FOR YOU!

WARDEN... I PROMISE TO GET RID OF EVERY BIRD I OWN!

AND SO, PRESENTLY, THE BALEFUL BIRDMAN ONCE AGAIN IS FREE AS A BIRD! SOMETIME LATER, IN AN ODD PENTHOUSE KNOWN AS THE PENGUIN'S ROOST...

LOOK HOW IT'S BREAKIN' THE BOSS'S HEART TO GET RID OF HIS PET BOIDS!

FAREWELL... FAREWELL! YOUR FREEDOM BRINGS ME MINE, MY FEATHERED ASSOCIATES! NEVER AGAIN SHALL WE TAUNT THE BATMAN WITH OUR DARING FORAYS IN CRIME!

WHILE ON THE ROOF OF A NEARBY BUILDING, TWO CAPED FIGURES GAZE GRIMLY AT THE SCENE...

HE'S RELEASING HIS BIRDS, JUST AS HE PROMISED THE PAROLE BOARD, BATMAN. MAYBE THE PENGUIN REALLY MEANS TO GO STRAIGHT!

IT'S A GOOD SIGN, ROBIN, BUT WE'LL KEEP OUR EYES ON HIM JUST THE SAME!

WILL THE PENGUIN REFORM? THE QUESTION IS ASKED EVEN BY HIS OWN HENCHMEN...

NOW I GET IT, PENGUIN! YOU LET THEM OTHER BIRDS OUT TO IMPRESS BATMAN WHOM YOU SPOTTED WATCHING YOU, BUT YOU'RE KEEPING THESE HERE VALUABLE BIRDS!

ONLY TO SELL THEM! I NEED FUNDS TO START MY NEW BUSINESS! REMEMBER, LEFTY... I'M ALSO KNOWN AS THE "MAN OF 1,000 UMBRELLAS!"

WHAT NEW BUSINESS DOES THE PENGUIN MEAN? SOME WEEKS LATER, AT THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

FROM BIRDS TO UMBRELLAS! SEEMS THE PENGUIN'S DROPPED ONE OF HIS CRIME TECHNIQUES ONLY TO CONCENTRATE ON ANOTHER!

HMM ... THE PAROLE BOARD DIDN'T SAY HE COULDN'T USE UMBRELLAS. IT MIGHT BE LEGITIMATE. STILL, BATMAN AND ROBIN OUGHT TO CHECK!

PENGUIN UMBRELLAS, INC... PLAN RECORD PRODUCTION AFTER REFORMED ARCH-CROOK ACQUIRES PLANT

SO, LATER THAT DAY, IN A STREAMLINED PLANT...

SO... YOU'VE COME TO CHECK UP ON ME, EH? WELL, GO AHEAD! I'M PRODUCING THE FINEST UMBRELLA ON THE MARKET ... WITH MORE STEEL THAN ANY OTHER BRAND! STRONG AND DURABLE!

AND NO TRICK UMBRELLAS, I HOPE!

WHY, BATMAN... I'M AN HONEST BUSINESS MAN. FORMERLY KNOWN AS "THE MAN OF A THOUSAND UMBRELLAS," TODAY, I'M "THE MAN OF 50,000 UMBRELLAS."

HMM... THEY SEEM ALL RIGHT!

NO TRICK SWORDS, HIDDEN COMPARTMENTS, SECRET GADGETS... BUT WHO'LL BUY THESE AT $10, WHEN AJAX MAKES A SIMILAR UMBRELLA FOR $5?

THAT SHODDY COMPANY? THEIR UMBRELLA HASN'T HALF THE STEEL! I'LL SHOW YOU! HERE'S AN AJAX UMBRELLA, SEE!

COMPETITOR

AJAX

WATCH OUT, BATMAN!

YOU'LL SEE... THIS AJAX PRODUCT IS AN INSULT TO THE INDUSTRY!

HUH?

BATMAN... I'LL SAVE YOU!

NO NEED! WITH THIS GENUINE PENGUIN UMBRELLA, I HOOKED IN MY BELT FOR EMERGENCY, WE CAN FLOAT SAFELY DOWN WITHOUT ASSISTANCE!

THERE, BATMAN! NOW... AFTER SEEING ME DEMONSTRATE THE OBVIOUS SUPERIORITY OF MY PRODUCT, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE GLAD TO PERSONALLY ENDORSE PENGUIN UMBRELLAS!

YOURS IS THE BETTER PRODUCT, ALL RIGHT!

BUT... I'M SORRY, PENGUIN. I *NEVER* GIVE ENDORSEMENTS!

WHAT? NOT EVEN TO HELP A REFORMED CRIMINAL START AN HONEST BUSINESS? NOT EVEN FOR ME... YOUR OLD ENEMY WHO HAS KNOWN YOU FOR YEARS? I'LL MAKE YOU ENDORSE MY PRODUCT! YOU'LL SEE!

YOU'RE SUNK, PENGUIN... WE'RE ALL SUNK... IF HE DON'T ENDORSE THEM UMBRELLAS. MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO GO BACK TO BIRDS!

NEVER GET DISCOURAGED SO EASILY, ROCKY! BATMAN WILL ENDORSE THOSE UMBRELLAS WHETHER HE'S WILLING OR NOT!

DOES THE PENGUIN REALLY MEAN WHAT HE SAYS? SEVERAL NIGHTS LATER, AT THE HOME OF BRUCE AND DICK...

GOTHAM DAILY

PENGUIN UMBRELLAS REACH 50,000 PRODUCTION MARK!

WELL... WITH THAT MANY UMBRELLAS FOR SALE, I GUESS THE PENGUIN REALLY MEANS TO GO STRAIGHT!

STILL, HOW DOES HE EXPECT TO SELL THEM? THAT THREAT HE MADE ABOUT GETTING BATMAN TO ENDORSE HIS PRODUCT, I WONDER...

DO YOUR SUPPOSING LATER! THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL! TIME FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN TO GO INTO ACTION!

WONDER WHAT IT CAN BE THIS TIME?

AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE PENGUIN'S ROOST...

GOOD! NOW GET ON THE PHONE AND NOTIFY THE NEWSPAPERS TO SEND REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS TO 4th AND VINE IN AN HOUR IF THEY WANT A GREAT STORY!

THERE IT IS, BOSS. THE BAT-SIGNAL!

SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

MR. RINK, HERE, IS NIGHT WATCHMAN OF THE COLE BANK BUILDING. FOR 3 NIGHTS RUNNING, HE'S SEEN A MYSTERIOUS HELICOPTER LOWER A MASKED FIGURE TO THE ROOF IN AN ADJOINING BUILDING. BUT THERE'S BEEN NO ROBBERY... NOTHING!

ALL WE FOUND WERE FOOT PRINTS ON THE ROOF AND THIS OUTLINE OF THE BAT-SIGNAL SCRATCHED IN THE TAR! HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHAT'S BEHIND IT?

MAYBE SOMEONE'S TRYING TO CONTACT ME SECRETLY. ANYWAY... THERE'S ONE WAY OF FINDING OUT!

THAT NIGHT, AS A PAIR OF CAPED FIGURES CROUCH IN THE SHADOWS OF THE ROOF...

THE HELICOPTER! AND THERE'S A CORD DANGLING FROM IT! KEEP THE BATPLANE WARMED UP WHILE I CLIMB THE ROPE TO MEET WHOEVER'S SUPPOSED TO COME DOWN!

I'LL BE READY... JUST IN CASE SOMEONE'S COOKED UP A CRUDE TRAP!

AS THE DANGLING ROPE SWEEPS CLOSER...

HMM... NO ONE'S COMING DOWN... AND THE HELICOPTER'S MOVING AWAY. THEY COULDN'T HAVE SPOTTED THE BATPLANE IN THIS DARKNESS!

I'LL SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

BUT SUDDENLY, AS THE BATMAN DRAWS CLOSE TO THE UNDERBELLY OF THE HELICOPTER...

S-SOMEONE'S LOOSENED THE ROPE! IT WAS A PLOT TO DROP ME TWENTY-FIVE STORIES TO THE STREET! BUT... HERE COMES ROBIN IN THE BATPLANE... READY TO CATCH ME IN TIME!

BUT AS ROBIN PREPARES TO MANEUVER THE BATPLANE BENEATH HIS FALLING COMPANION, HE MAKES A CHILLING DISCOVERY...

GREAT SCOTT! THEY DROPPED BATMAN OVER THE ONE STREET IN THIS WHOLE AREA THAT'S TOO NARROW FOR THE BATPLANE TO PASS THROUGH! IT... IT WAS THE ONE THING WE OVERLOOKED! ...I CAN'T SAVE HIM! IT... IT'S (CHOKE) THE END OF BATMAN!

THEN, JUST AS BATMAN SEEMS ABOUT TO PLUMMET TO CERTAIN DEATH...

LOOK! IT'S BATMAN...AND... AND HE'S SAVED! THERE'S AN UMBRELLA OPENING UP LIKE A PARACHUTE AND CHECKING HIS FALL!

WHAT A PICTURE THIS'LL BE! PERFECT! PRETTY NERVY STUNT, BATMAN, TO ENDORSE THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA LIKE THAT!

HUH? I'M NOT ENDORSING ANYTHING!

BUT THEN, AS BATMAN TURNS THE UMBRELLA AROUND...

HUH? LUMINOUS LETTERS! SO THE PENGUIN'S MADE ME ENDORSE HIS PRODUCT AFTER ALL! BECAUSE I CAN'T POSSIBLY KEEP THE PAPERS FROM PRINTING THESE PICTURES!

BATMAN STAKES HIS LIFE ON THE QUALITY OF PENGUIN UMBRELLAS

NEXT MORNING, AS ALFRED THE BUTLER SERVES BREAKFAST IN THE WAYNE HOUSEHOLD...

THE FINANCIAL JOURNAL

LIKE BATMAN, YOU TOO CAN DEPEND ON A PENGUIN UMBRELLA! LIKE BATMAN, IT'S TOUGH, INDESTRUCTIBLE!

MY WORD, MAWSTER BRUCE ...YOUR NAME'S BEING USED BY THAT HORRID PENGUIN PERSON IN A FULL PAGE AD IN THE *FINANCIAL JOURNAL!*

ER... YES...ER... COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT REMINDS ME. I'VE AN IMPORTANT BUSINESS APPOINTMENT IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT. CARE TO COME ALONG, DICK?

YES...YOU KNOW I'M INTERESTED IN "FINANCE!"

PRESENTLY, AS THEY LEAVE THE HOUSE...

YOU THINK THE PENGUIN MAY BE UP TO SOMETHING?

ADVERTISING IN THE *FINANCIAL JOURNAL*... MAYBE HE'S JUST AFTER A RICH CLIENTELE, BUT WITH THE PENGUIN, IT'S BEST TO TAKE NO CHANCES. SO, LET'S PUT IN A DAY AT MY 'OFFICE, IN CASE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE NEEDED!

BUT, IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT, THE DAY PASSES WITHOUT MISHAP, AND AS DICK, BRUCE AND A BUSINESS PARTNER PREPARE TO LEAVE THE OFFICE...

IT'S STARTING TO RAIN. BUT SINCE I BOUGHT TWO OF THESE WONDERFUL PENGUIN UMBRELLAS THIS MORNING, BEFORE THEY WERE ALL SNATCHED UP, I CAN LEND YOU ONE, BRUCE!

ER... UH... THANKS...

AND SO, ONTO A STREET FILLED WITH PENGUIN UMBRELLAS AS A RESULT OF BATMAN'S ENDORSEMENT, COUPLED WITH THE THREAT OF RAIN...

THE PENGUIN SURE DID ALL RIGHT USING BATMAN IN HIS AD!

SAY, BRUCE... MY WATCH IS OFF. HAVE YOU THE TIME?

THAT'S ODD! MY WATCH IS OFF, TOO!

I SAY... HAVE YOU THE TIME?

WHY... MY WATCH SEEMS TO BE ON THE BLINK!

THE TIME? EXACTLY 4:30!

SAY... EVERYONE'S WATCH IS OUT OF ORDER EXCEPT THAT FELLOW WITHOUT AN UMBRELLA! COULD THE STEEL IN THESE UMBRELLAS AFFECT A WATCH?

ONLY IF THE STEEL WERE MAGNETIZED! WHICH IT IS! LOOK HOW MINE STICKS TO THIS STEEL GRATING!

MAGNETIZED? BUT WHAT FOR?

I DON'T KNOW... BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THE PENGUIN HAS A REASON. WITH ALL THESE MAGNETIZED UMBRELLAS FLOATING AROUND THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT, WE'D BETTER BE PREPARED TO NIP WHATEVER HE'S UP TO!

I...I D-DON'T DARE! IT...IT'S TOO FAR TO THE G-GROUND!

LET GO YOUR UMBRELLA!

AND SO, AS THE PAIR SETS ASIDE THEIR UMBRELLAS IN A NEARBY DOORWAY AND START TO SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN...

HELP!

GREAT SCOTT! LOOK! THAT STAINLESS STEEL STATUE IS DRAWING ALL THE MAGNETIZED UMBRELLAS!

AND THE PEOPLE HOLDING THEM TOO!

THROW DOWN YOUR WALLETS AND YOUR BRIEF-CASES OR I'LL SIGNAL MY MAN TO CUT THE CURRENT MAGNETIZING THAT STATUE AND YOU'LL ALL COME CRASHING DOWN TO THE STREET!

AND AS THE TERRIFIED VICTIMS COMPLY...

TUM--TEE--TUM...THIS IS WHAT COMES OF SAVING UMBRELLAS FOR A RAINY DAY! THOUSANDS IN CASH AND SECURITIES RAINING DOWN ON ME! HAVE TO MOVE FAST THOUGH, BEFORE THE COPS ARRIVE!

BUT SUDDENLY...

BUT EVEN INTO YOUR LIFE, PENGUIN, A LITTLE RAIN MUST FALL!

HUH! WHO INVITED YOU TWO?

THIS IS MY PARTY... AND IT'S GOING TO STAY THAT WAY! EVEN IF I HAVE TO MOVE IT SOMEWHERE ELSE!

OOF!

SWIFTLY, BATMAN DRIVES A PARKED CAR DIRECTLY UNDER THE STATUE AND...

LET GO YOUR UMBRELLAS AND JUMP FOR THE ROOF OF THIS CAR! IT'LL BREAK YOUR FALL!

STEP ON IT! THERE'S PROBABLY A MILLION COPS RIGHT BEHIND THEM!

ROBIN! THEY'VE GOT ROBIN! BUT...I'VE GOT TO GET THESE PEOPLE DOWN BEFORE GIVING CHASE! THAT CONVERTIBLE OVER THERE... IT SHOULD DO THE TRICK...

SNAP!

HAVING ARRANGED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PENGUIN'S VICTIMS, BATMAN BORROWS ANOTHER CAR TO SPEED AFTER THE FLEEING ARCH-CROOK...

IT'S BATMAN! HE'S GAINING ON US! WE'LL HAVE TO DROP OUR EXCESS BAGGAGE TO GET RID OF HIM!

R-ROBIN!

WITH SPLIT SECOND TIMING, BATMAN APPLIES THE BRAKES AS HE HURLS THE BATARANG TOWARD HIS FALLING COMPANION...

GOT HIM!

A MOMENT LATER...

SORRY, BATMAN... IF I HADN'T GOTTEN CAUGHT SO EASILY, THE PENGUIN MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN AWAY!

NEVER MIND! WE'LL TRACK HIM DOWN IF IT TAKES A YEAR!

STACY'S

LATER, IN A PLANE, SPEEDING TOWARD AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION...

HOW ABOUT TELLING US WHAT'S NEXT, PENGUIN? WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO BACK TO BIRDS NOW THAT BATMAN'S PRACTICALLY FORCED US OUTA THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS?

WHY, MY DEAR ROCKY, WE'RE ONLY JUST STARTING IN THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS!

WHILE AT THE PENGUIN'S ABANDONED UMBRELLA PLANT...

FROM THESE FILES, IT SEEMS THE PENGUIN MADE ONLY ONE BATCH OF BEACH UMBRELLAS! AND SINCE HE MUST HAVE HAD A SPECIAL USE FOR THEM, WE MAY LEARN WHERE HE'LL STRIKE NEXT BY CHECKING WHERE THESE UMBRELLAS WERE SHIPPED AT THE LOCAL FREIGHT OFFICE...

ONE WEEK LATER... AND MANY MILES DISTANT, AT OASIS 'ISLAND BEACH, A CARIBBEAN RETREAT, FREQUENTED BY THE VERY RICH...

NOW TO GET THIS FIRST BATCH OF UMBRELLAS SET UP IN THESE PLACES WE PREPARED LAST NIGHT... SO OUR "MEMBERS" KNOW WHERE TO FIND US!

AND EACH "MEMBER" KNOWS WHERE TO SET UP HIS UMBRELLA! WHAT A SCHEME!

UMBRELLA CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

AS THE SWITCH IS CLOSED, THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLAS SPOTTED ALONG THE BEACH, BEGIN TO SPIN.

GREAT SCOTT! THOSE UMBRELLAS MUST BE SET INTO MOTORS BURIED IN THE SAND! THEY'RE KICKING UP A DUST STORM THAT'S QUICKLY GETTING SO THICK, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE WHERE WE'RE LANDING, WITHOUT POSSIBLY INJURING SOMEONE!

AND AS THE DUST STORM INCREASES IN TEMPO, THE PENGUIN AND HIS MEN, PROTECTED BY MASKS, CLOSE IN ON THE BEACH CLUB...

QUICK, MEN... WITH A SAND UMBRELLA TO COVER US FROM THE BATPLANE, LOOTING THE BEACH CLUB WHILE THE GUARDS ARE TOO BLINDED TO STOP US. SHOULD ONLY TAKE A FEW MOMENTS!

I'M HEADING FOR THOSE CLOUDS, ROBIN! IT'S OUR ONE CHANCE! WITH THE HELP OF THE SILVER IODIDE WE'RE CARRYING, WE'LL BE ABLE TO USE RAIN AS A PROTECTION AGAINST UMBRELLAS!

KEEP POURING EVERY LAST STOP THAT SILVER IODIDE FROM THIS PLANE! I WANT IT TO POUR!

CLOUD SEEDING... A CHEMICAL WAY OF FORCING THE CLOUDS TO RELEASE THEIR MOISTURE IN THE FORM OF RAIN! AND AS THE SUDDEN DOWNPOUR REACHES THE PENGUIN'S DUST-STORM...

THE RAIN'S WET DOWN THE SAND SO IT DOESN'T BLOW! OH-OH! FOUL WEATHER! THE GUARDS NOW HAVE THE ADVANTAGE! THEY CAN SEE!

BUT THE WILY PENGUIN IS ALWAYS A FAST MAN FOR A GETAWAY...

ANY PORT IN A STORM...EVEN IF IT'S ONLY A ROWBOAT. WITH THIS STIFF BREEZE, I'LL BE GONE BEFORE THEY CAN GET A LAUNCH OUT TO PURSUE ME!

WHILE ABOVE...

WHAT A TIME TO GO FISHING, BATMAN!

WHY RISK OUR NECKS TRYING TO GRAB THE PENGUIN BY DROPPING ON HIM FROM THE BATPLANE ROPE LADDER, WHEN WE CAN USE SOME OF THE PENGUIN'S OWN METHODS TO HELP US!

A MOMENT LATER...

BUT...I DON'T GET IT... WHY BOMBARD HIM WITH FISH?

WATCH AND SEE WHEN HE PASSES THAT SANDBAR IN ANOTHER MOMENT.

SEAGULLS! BIRDS! BIRDS! BIRDS! THEY'LL DROWN ME! THEY'RE SWAMPING THE BOAT HELP!

ALRIGHT PENGUIN, YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG FEATHERS TO BE WITH THESE BIRDS..SO WE'RE TAKING YOU BACK WHERE YOU BELONG.. AMONG THE SEABIRDS!

AND TO THINK THAT I GAVE UP BIRDS! HOW HUMILIATING!

NEXT DAY, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AT GOTHAM PENITENTIARY...

GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK, PENGUIN. OUR UMBRELLA SHOP HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE YOU LEFT!

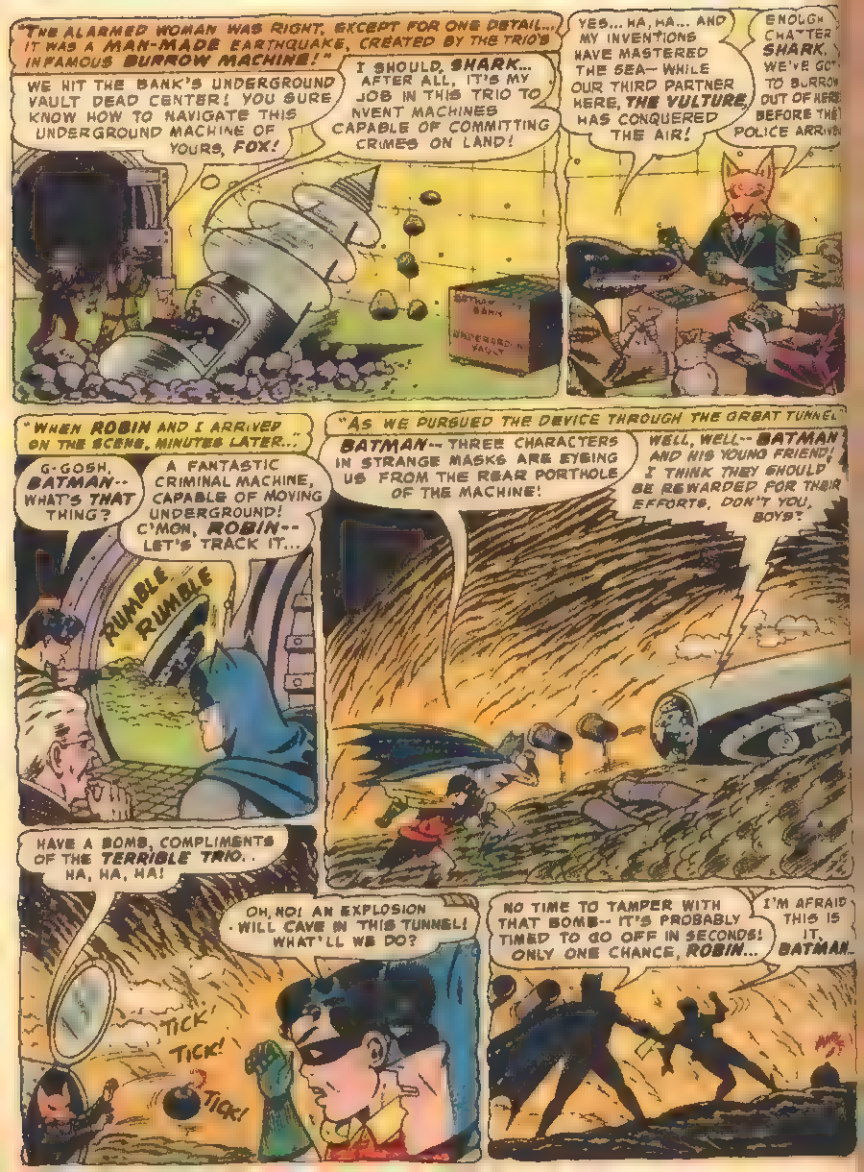
NO-NO-NO! UMBRELLAS... BIRDS...THEY'RE THE BANE OF MY LIFE! JUST THROW ME INTO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT AND LET ME BANG MY HEAD AGAINST THE WALL UNTIL I LEARN THAT **YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!**

THE END

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
THE UNDERSEAS EEL--THE BURROW MACHINE-- THE PILOT FISH... THESE WERE BUT A FEW OF THE FANTASTIC WEAPONS ENCOUNTERED BY BATMAN AND ROBIN AS THEY CLASHED WITH THE MOST BIZARRE CRIMINALS OF ALL TIME! AND WITH EACH ENGAGEMENT, THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS FEARED IT WOULD BE THEIR LAST-- FOR UNBELIEVABLE DANGER WAS EVER PRESENT, WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO THWART THAT BIZARRE TRIO KNOWN AS...
THE FOX, THE SHARK, AND THE VULTURE
BATMAN... THE TERRIBLE TRIO IN ANOTHER FANTASTIC CRIME MACHINE! HOW CAN WE EVER DEFEAT THEM?

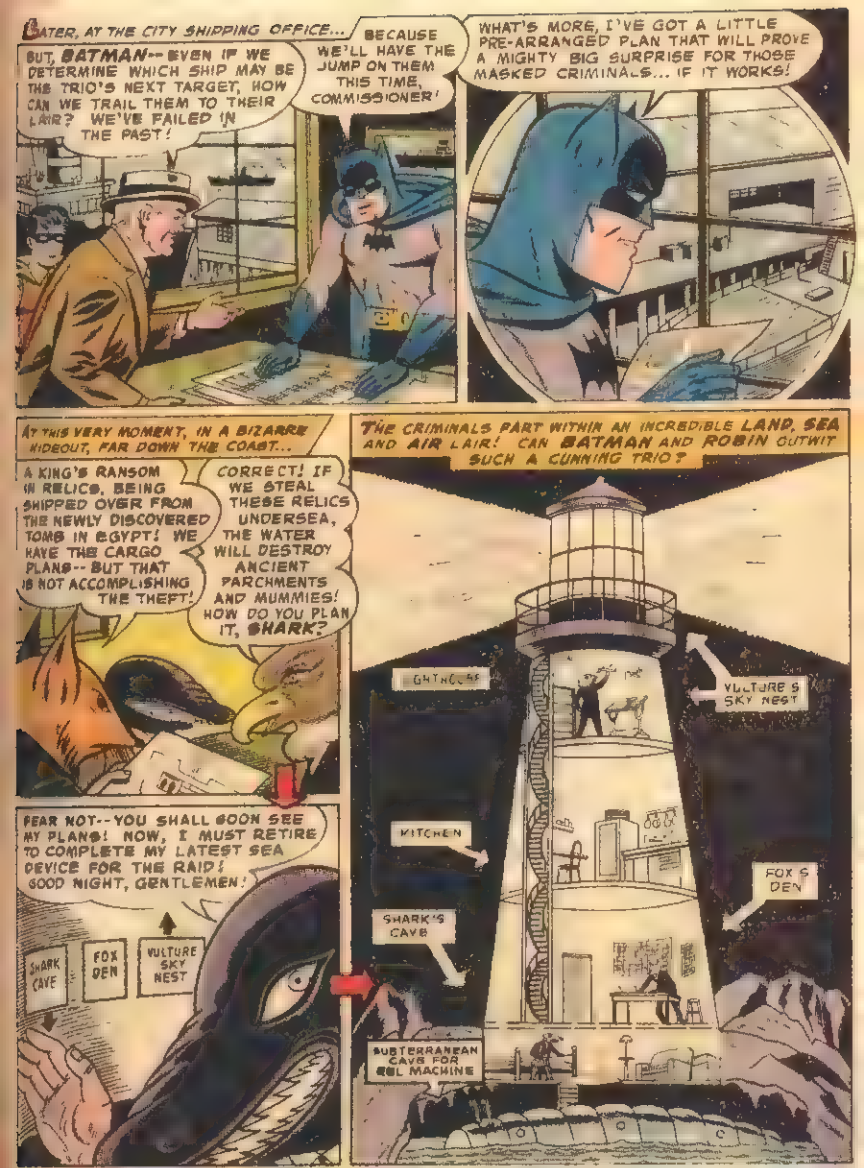
AT GOTHAM CITY AIRPORT, A SPECIAL PLANE WINGS SKYWARD ON THE FIRST LEG OF A WORLD TOUR...
FREEDOM PLANE
HISTORICAL EXHIBITS
BUT WITHIN THE TRANSPORT, MINUTES AFTER TAKE-OFF...
HA, HA... A HISTORICAL FORTUNE WITHIN MY GRASP! BUT FIRST, I MUST PUT THESE GUARDS TO SLEEP WITH MY GAS PELLET...
AS AN ODORLESS GAS SATURATES THE COMPARTMENT...
EXCELLENT... THEY'RE UNCONSCIOUS! NOW TO PUSH THAT CASEMENT IN FRONT OF THE DOOR OF THE PILOT'S CABIN, AND GET TO WORK!
THIS GOLD BUST OF WASHINGTON SHOULD REAP A HANDSOME PRICE IN THE UNDERGROUND MARKET, AND SO SHOULD-- EH?
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON? LET ME OUT OF HERE!
TIME FOR THE VULTURE TO DEPART! I'VE MADE A MOST SATISFACTORY HAUL FOR MY FEW MINUTES' WORK...
S.O.S. FREEDOM PLANE REPORTING ROBBERY--CRIMINAL WEARING VULTURE-LIKE DISGUISE PARACHUTING WITH VALUABLE CARGO AT LONGITUDE 100... LATITUDE 35...
HA, HA, HA!

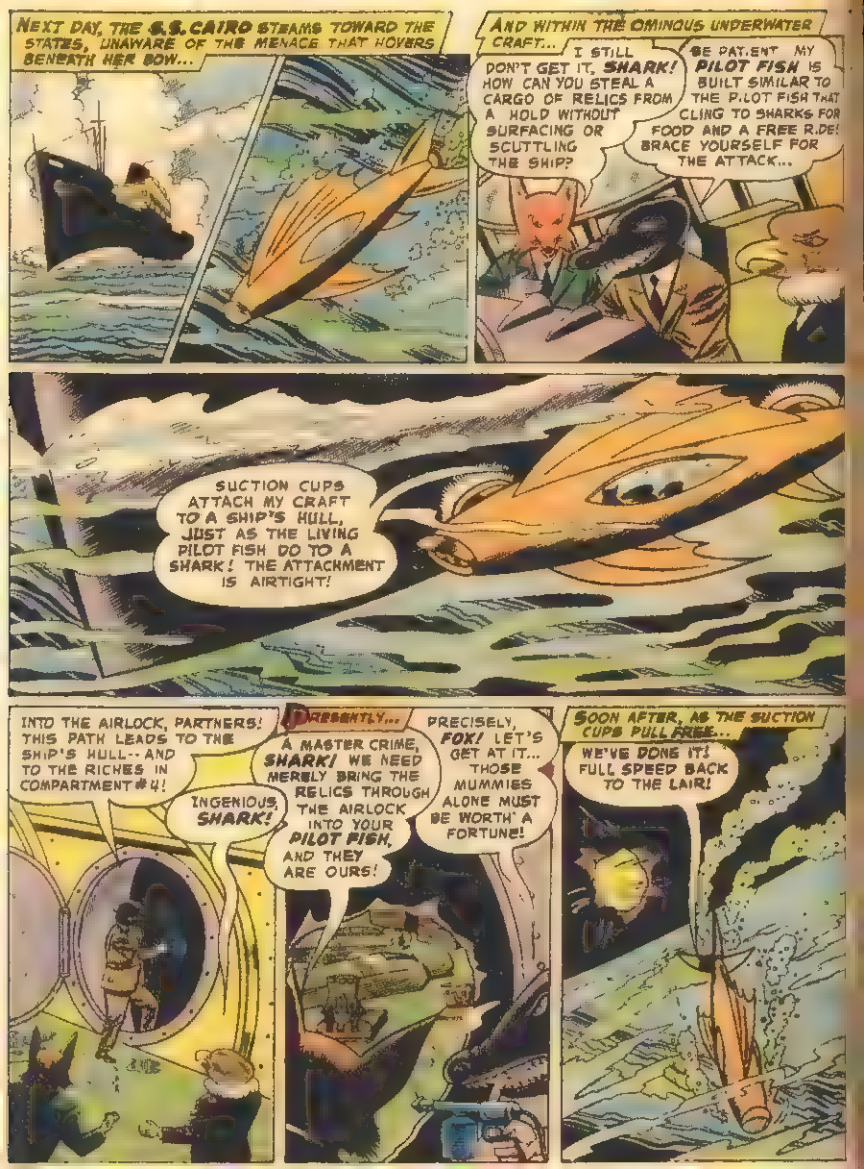
WITHIN SECONDS, A FAMILIAR EMBLEM PLAYS UPON THE EARLY EVENING SKY OVER GOTHAM CITY...
... LAUNCHING WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, INTO ACTION!
BRUCE-- COMMISSIONER GORDON'S PAGING US FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS VIA THE BAT-SIGNAL!
LET'S SLIP INTO OUR COSTUMES, DICK, AND TURN ON THE SHORT-WAVE RADIO!
AFTER DONNING THE FAMED GARB OF BATMAN AND ROBIN...
... CRIMINAL WEARING VULTURE-LIKE DISGUISE HAS PARACHUTED WITH CARGO LONGITUDE 100.. LATITUDE 35°
VULTURE-LIKE DISGUISE? GOSH, BATMAN-- IT SOUNDS LIKE THE TERRIBLE TRIO HAS STRUCK AGAIN!
I'M AFRAID SO, ROBIN! WE'D BETTER SPLIT UP FOR LAND-AIR COVERAGE... YOU TAKE THE BATMOBILE AND I'LL FLY THE BAT-PLANE!
CHECK... LET'S HOPE THINGS DON'T TURN OUT THE WAY THEY DID LAST TIME!
AS THE SLEEK BAT-PLANE TAKES OFF...
ROBIN'S RIGHT... THE LAST TIME WE CLASHED WITH THESE CRIMINALS WAS JUST THREE DAYS AGO! THE EMPLOYEES OF GOTHAM BANK WERE THROWN INTO PANIC...
"... WHEN THEIR ENTIRE BUILDING SUDDENLY SHOOK WITH FRIGHTENING VIOLENCE!"
RUMBLE!
RUMBLE!
RUMBLE!
GOOD GRIEF! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
EEK! AN EARTHQUAKE!


"THE ALARMED WOMAN WAS RIGHT, EXCEPT FOR ONE DETAIL... IT WAS A MAN-MADE EARTHQUAKE, CREATED BY THE TRIO'S INFAMOUS BURROW MACHINE!"
WE HIT THE BANK'S UNDERGROUND VAULT DEAD CENTER! YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS UNDERGROUND MACHINE OF YOURS, FOX!
I SHOULD, SHARK... AFTER ALL, IT'S MY JOB IN THIS TRIO TO INVENT MACHINES CAPABLE OF COMMITTING CRIMES ON LAND!
YES... HA, HA... AND MY INVENTIONS HAVE MASTERED THE SEA— WHILE OUR THIRD PARTNER HERE, THE VULTURE, HAS CONQUERED THE AIR!
ENOUGH CHATTER SHARK, WE'VE GOT TO BURROW OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE!
BATMAN BANK
UNDERGROUND VAULT
"WHEN ROBIN AND I ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, MINUTES LATER..."
G-GOSH, BATMAN-- WHAT'S THAT THING?
A FANTASTIC CRIMINAL MACHINE, CAPABLE OF MOVING UNDERGROUND! C'MON, ROBIN-- LET'S TRACK IT...
RUMBLE RUMBLE
"AS WE PURSUED THE DEVICE THROUGH THE GREAT TUNNEL"
BATMAN-- THREE CHARACTERS IN STRANGE MASKS ARE EYEING US FROM THE REAR PORTHOLE OF THE MACHINE!
WELL, WELL-- BATMAN AND HIS YOUNG FRIEND! I THINK THEY SHOULD BE REWARDED FOR THEIR EFFORTS, DON'T YOU, BOYS?
HAVE A BOMB, COMPLIMENTS OF THE TERRIBLE TRIO.. HA, HA, HA!
OH, NO! AN EXPLOSION - WILL CAVE IN THIS TUNNEL! WHAT'LL WE DO?
TICK! TICK! TICK!
NO TIME TO TAMPER WITH THAT BOMB-- IT'S PROBABLY TIMED TO GO OFF IN SECONDS! ONLY ONE CHANCE, ROBIN...
I'M AFRAID THIS IS IT, BATMAN...

BOOM
"IT WAS HOURS LATER WHEN RESCUE TEAMS FINALLY REACHED US..."
NO! NO! BATMAN AND ROBIN--DEAD!
ALMOST, COMMISSIONER GORDON--BUT NOT QUITE!
WHEW! I'M SURE GLAD YOU REMEMBERED THE BROKEN DRAINAGE PIPES WE PASSED WHILE PURSUING THAT TRIO, BATMAN!
IT WAS THE ONLY WAY WE COULD POSSIBLY BREATHE AFTER THE CAVE-IN, ROBIN!
YES, ROBIN AND I NEARLY LOST OUR LIVES IN THAT ENCOUNTER WITH THE TERRIBLE TRIO! NOW, THEY'VE STRUCK AGAIN, AND--HOLD IT! WHAT'S THAT DOWN THERE?
THE VULTURE AND THE FOX--RACING AFTER THE PARACHUTED PLUNDER TO LOAD IT IN THE BURROW MACHINE! BEFORE I CAN LAND, THEY'LL BE WELL UNDERGROUND!
SAY IT OVER AND OVER "MAKE MINE FOUR-LEAF CLOVER"
WAIT... THAT HUGE OUTDOOR BOTTLE DISPLAY GIVES ME AN IDEA! PERHAPS I CAN FRIGHTEN THOSE CRIMINALS AWAY BY REMOTE CONTROL! AT LEAST, IT'S WORTH A TRY...

ROUND AND ROUND STREAKS THE BAT-PLANE, FASTER AND FASTER, TILL SUDDENLY...
IT WORKED! THE AIR VIBRATION I MADE WHEN I CRACKED THE SOUND BARRIER CREATED SOUND WAVES THAT BURST THE GIANT BOTTLES! BUT-- WILL IT FOOL THEM?
BOOM!
BOOM!
LISTEN... SHELLFIRE! THEY MUST HAVE THE ARMY AFTER US! NO TIME TO SNATCH THE LOOT... RUN FOR THE BURROW MACHINE!
YEAH... EVEN WE CAN'T RISK A STAND AGAINST HEAVY ARTILLERY!
SHORTLY, AS BATMAN REDUCES SPEED TO MAKE A LANDING...
THEY'RE TUNNELING UNDERGROUND AGAIN, ROBIN-- BUT THIS TIME, WE WON'T BE TRICKED!
RIGHT, BATMAN. I'VE GOT THE BAT-MOBILE'S SONIC RANGE FINDER READIED, AS WE PLANNED! LET'S GO...
EARTH VIBRATIONS FROM THEIR MACHINE COME THROUGH PERFECTLY, BATMAN! THEY'RE ABOUT 20 YARDS AHEAD-- AND BELOW US!
GOOD... LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE BAY!
PING! PING! PING!
MOMENTS LATER, THE CAPED PAIR SPRINGS INTO ACTION, AS...
THEY MUST HAVE GONE INTO THE BAY! THE INSTRUMENT STOPPED RECORDING RIGHT AT THE WATER'S EDGE!
DON YOUR AQUA-LUNG, ROBIN! WE HAVEN'T A SECOND TO LOSE, IF WE'RE GOING TO KEEP ON THEIR TRAIL!
AS THE DUO DROPS BELOW THE SURFACE, MAINTAINING CONTACT VIA RADIO...
BATMAN! ANOTHER FANTASTIC MACHINE IS WAITING FOR THEM DOWN HERE!
MOVE FAST AND SWIM LOW, ROBIN... TOWARD THAT NEW MACHINE!


LATER, AT THE CITY SHIPPING OFFICE...
BUT, BATMAN--EVEN IF WE DETERMINE WHICH SHIP MAY BE THE TRIO'S NEXT TARGET, HOW CAN WE TRAIL THEM TO THEIR LAIR? WE'VE FAILED IN THE PAST!
BECAUSE WE'LL HAVE THE JUMP ON THEM THIS TIME, COMMISSIONER!
WHAT'S MORE, I'VE GOT A LITTLE PRE-ARRANGED PLAN THAT WILL PROVE A MIGHTY BIG SURPRISE FOR THOSE MASKED CRIMINALS... IF IT WORKS!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN A BIZARRE HIDEOUT, FAR DOWN THE COAST...
A KING'S RANSOM IN RELICS, BEING SHIPPED OVER FROM THE NEWLY DISCOVERED TOMB IN EGYPT! WE HAVE THE CARGO PLANS--BUT THAT IS NOT ACCOMPLISHING THE THEFT!
CORRECT! IF WE STEAL THESE RELICS UNDERSEA, THE WATER WILL DESTROY ANCIENT PARCHMENTS AND MUMMIES! HOW DO YOU PLAN IT, SHARK?
THE CRIMINALS PART WITHIN AN INCREDIBLE LAND, SEA AND AIR LAIR! CAN BATMAN AND ROBIN OUTWIT SUCH A CUNNING TRIO?
FEAR NOT--YOU SHALL SOON SEE MY PLANS! NOW, I MUST RETIRE TO COMPLETE MY LATEST SEA DEVICE FOR THE RAID! GOOD NIGHT, GENTLEMEN!
SHARK CAVE
FOX DEN
VULTURE SKY NEST
VULTURE'S SKY NEST
KITCHEN
FOX'S DEN
SHARK'S CAVE
SUBTERRANEAN CAVE FOR SEA MACHINE


NEXT DAY, THE S.S. CAIRO STEAMS TOWARD THE STATES, UNAWARE OF THE MENACE THAT HOVERS BENEATH HER BOW...
AND WITHIN THE OMINOUS UNDERWATER CRAFT...
I STILL DON'T GET IT, SHARK! HOW CAN YOU STEAL A CARGO OF RELICS FROM A HOLD WITHOUT SURFACING OR SCUTTLING THE SHIP?
BE PATIENT MY PILOT FISH IS BUILT SIMILAR TO THE PILOT FISH THAT CLING TO SHARKS FOR FOOD AND A FREE RIDE! BRACE YOURSELF FOR THE ATTACK...
SUCTION CUPS ATTACH MY CRAFT TO A SHIP'S HULL, JUST AS THE LIVING PILOT FISH DO TO A SHARK! THE ATTACHMENT IS AIRTIGHT!
INTO THE AIRLOCK, PARTNERS! THIS PATH LEADS TO THE SHIP'S HULL -- AND TO THE RICHES IN COMPARTMENT #4!
INGENIOUS, SHARK!
PRESENTLY...
A MASTER CRIME, SHARK! WE NEED MERELY BRING THE RELICS THROUGH THE AIRLOCK INTO YOUR PILOT FISH, AND THEY ARE OURS!
PRECISELY, FOX! LET'S GET AT IT... THOSE MUMMIES ALONE MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE!
SOON AFTER, AS THE SUCTION CUPS PULL FREE...
WE'VE DONE IT! FULL SPEED BACK TO THE LAIR!

MEANWHILE, AS AN ALARM FLASHES A FLOOD WARNING ABOARD THE S.S. CAIRO...
GOOD GRIEF. THAT HOLD'S BEEN PLUNDERED-- BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW!
NEITHER CAN I, CAPTAIN! WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THE PLANS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN WORK OUT SUCCESSFULLY!
AN HOUR LATER, A SMIRKING CRIMINAL TRIO UNLOADS ITS LOOT IN THE BIZARRE SHARK DEN...
TONIGHT WE SHALL CELEBRATE! THIS IS OUR CRIME OF CRIMES!
YES, YES-- BUT FIRST LET US LIST OUR TAKE! WE MUST HAVE RELICS WORTH A MILLION HERE!
BE CAREFUL OF THAT MUMMY, VULTURE! THOSE THINGS CRUMBLE WHEN EXPOSED TO THE AIR!
STRANGE-- THE MUMMY CLOTH IS NOT ANCIENT... IT'S FRESH!
NEXT INSTANT...
TIME FOR ACTION, ROBIN!
BATMAN! OH-H-H...
THEY'VE OUTFOXED US, SHARK! THEY CONCEALED THEMSELVES IN THOSE CASES TO FIND OUR LAIR!
AND THEY'LL BE DOOMED FOR THEIR EFFORTS! MY FLYING STING RAY WILL HANDLE THIS SITUATION!
AS THE SHARK PRESSES A CONTROL PANEL BUTTON...
WE BROUGHT ALONG A FEW TRICKS OF OUR OWN, SHARK!
THE BATARANG'S STOPPED THAT FLYING GADGET, ROBIN-- AND THIS BLOW SHOULD SILENCE THE SHARK FOR AWHILE! LET'S ROUND UP THE OTHER TWO!

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

A CUNNING MIND HAD DEVISED A FANTASTIC METHOD TO UTILIZE COLD FOR CRIME, AND THWART ALL ATTEMPTS TO ARREST HIM! AND WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER,** TOOK OFF IN PURSUIT, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES IN HOT WATER, DODGING FROZEN PELLETS AND SKIDDING INTO UNKNOWN DANGER AS THEY TRIED TO STOP...

the ICE CRIMES of MR. ZERO

NOW THAT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE BEEN "PUT AWAY ON ICE," NOTHING CAN STOP OUR INGENIOUS ICE CRIMES!

MIDNIGHT IN GOTHAM CITY, AND AN ICE CREAM TRUCK COMES TO A STOP BEFORE THE JEWELRY EXCHANGE...

MR. ZERO-- WE'RE HERE!

OPEN UP, MARTY, AND I'LL GET TO WORK!

TAP TAP

THE FANTASTIC MR. ZERO TRIGGERS HIS STRANGE WEAPON...

THAT SHOULD HEAT THE WALLS OF THE VAULT SUFFICIENTLY! NOW TO QUICK-FREEZE IT WITH MY ICE GAS...

SSSSSS

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE GANG FLEES WITH THE LOOT...

THE BAT-SIGNAL! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND!

BUT WE WON'T BE HERE TO WELCOME THEM, MARTY!

THE FREEZING COMPARTMENT DOOR SWINGS OPEN-- AND A BIZARRE CRIMINAL EMERGES...

BEFORE THE POLICE ANSWER THE ALARM, WE'LL BE FAR FROM HERE... WITH A FORTUNE IN "ICE"! NOW, TO BLAST THE VAULT WITH MY HEAT CAPSULE!

CLANG! CLANG!

CRASH!

AN INCRED BLE SOLUTION SQUIRTS FROM THE SECOND BARREL OF THE GUN...

LOOK AT THE VAULT CRACK OPEN! YOU'RE A GENIUS, MR. ZERO!

INTENSE HEAT FOLLOWED BY INTENSE COLD PRODUCES THE PHENOMENON! NOW... FETCH THE "ICE"-- HURRY!

KRAAACK!

CRAACK!

SUDDENLY, ROARING JETS FILL THE AIR...

THEY'RE ESCAPING IN THAT TRUCK, BATMAN! AND LOOK AT THE ONE IN THE FREEZING COMPARTMENT!

HE'S WEARING A SPECIAL SUIT OF SOME KIND, ROBIN! WE'LL FIND OUT WHY WHEN WE CAPTURE HIM!

THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER REMOVES HIS SILKEN LASSO FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, AND...

GOOD THROW, BATMAN!

MY UNIQUE WEAPON WILL END BATMAN'S PURSUIT ON HIS JET-SKATES!

BATMAN... WHAT'S HE DOING?

I DON'T KNOW ROBIN! HE'S SPRAYING THE STREET WITH SOMETHING!

FOOSH!

AS THE PAIR SPEED OVER THE SLICK SURFACE...

IT'S A SHEET OF ICE, ROBIN!

I PUT THOSE TWO ON THE SKIDS! THEY CAN'T FOLLOW US NOW!

THEY GOT AWAY, BATMAN!

BUT AT LEAST WE CAUGHT ONE OF THEM, ROBIN! MAYBE WE CAN GET A LEAD TO THEIR HIDEOUT THROUGH HIM!

YOU WON'T GET ANY-THING OUT OF ME BATMAN! MR. ZERO WOULD PUT ME ON "ICE" FOR KEEPS... IF I TALKED!

PERHAPS YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND AFTER SPENDING SOME TIME IN THE COOLER! HERE COME THE POLICE NOW!

LATER, WITHIN A REMOTE MOUNTAIN OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...

HERE'S THE NEW MAN TO REPLACE GUS WHO WAS CAPTURED, MR. ZERO! HIS NAME IS KIRK!

THIS IS AN ODD SET-UP! WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

I AM THE VICTIM OF A MOST UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT, KIRK! ONE DAY, I WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH AN ICE GUN I'D INVENTED...

"...WHEN THE FREEZING SOLUTION I'D JUST COMPLETED...

I SLIPPED OUT OF MY HAND! GREAT GRIEF! I'VE SATURATED MYSELF WITH THE SOLUTION

BOOM!

"I NEVER WOULD HAVE SURVIVED HAD I NOT STRUCK UPON THE ANSWER IN THE NEXT MOMENT...

THE LAB COLD STORAGE UNIT'S MY ONLY CHANCE AT LEAST I CAN BREATHE IN HERE!

GOLLY, BOSS--YOU'VE BECOME A HUMAN ICICLE YOU GOTTA LIVE IN ZERO TEMPERATURE FOREVER!

"THE EFFECT WAS IMMEDIATE--I COULD SCARCELY BREATHE AT ORDINARY TEMPERATURE..."

GASP GASP... DO SOMETHING MARTY... LUKE! THE GAS IS AFFECTING ME! I-I CAN'T BREATHE!

BUT... WHAT CAN WE DO?

THUS WAS MR. ZERO BORN! I PERFECTED AN AIR-CONDITIONED COSTUME TO HELP ME COMMIT MY CRIMES... AND BUILT THIS HIDDEN, REFRIGERATED MOUNTAIN LAIR!

WOW! THAT'S SOME STORY MR. ZERO!

NOW, GENTLEMEN WE WILL CONTINUE WITH OUR PLANS TO "FREEZE" THE WEALTH OF GOTHAM CITY! HERE IS PLAN C!

NEXT DAY, OUTSIDE THE EXCLUSIVE GOTHAM CITY HOTEL...

SPECIAL FROZEN MEAT SHIPMENT FOR THE VISTING PRINCE AND PRINCESS!

OKAY--THE STORAGE LOCKERS ARE STRAIGHT AHEAD!

SERVICE ENTRANCE

FROZEN FOOD STORAGE

SHORTLY, A FANTASTIC CRIME PLAN TAKES FORM...

GUARDS ARE ALL OVER THE PLACE, PROTECTING THE VISITING ROYALTY, BUT THANKS TO MR. ZERO, WE'LL GET INSIDE JUST THE SAME!

QUIET! GET READY TO MOVE AS SOON AS HE'S FINISHED!

THEN, AS MR. ZERO FIRES THE FREEZING JET...

GRAB THE PRINCESS' TIARA AND HER DIAMOND PENDANT! HURRY!

OH-H-H!

NEARBY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN HEAR A POLICE BULLETIN...

...AND THE THIEVES HAVE SMASHED INTO THE GRAND BALL ROOM...

THERE'S THE HOTEL--AND MR. ZERO ESCAPING ON THE TERRACE, ROBIN!

AS THE DYNAMIC DUO SWING INTO ACTION...

MR ZERO'S FIRING **BALLS OF ICE** TO TUMBLE THE GUARDS!

THEY MUST HAVE A VEHICLE WAITING BELOW. GOT TO STOP THEM NOW!

BATMAN!

ABRUPTLY, AS MR. ZERO TURNS HIS ICE GUN ON THE PAIR...

HE'S TURNED OUR BATLINES TO **ICE!**

ROLL WITH THE FALL, **ROBIN!**

BUT AS THEY RUSH FORWARD...

WHAT'S WRONG **BATMAN!** SURELY A LITTLE ICE CAN'T STOP THE MIGHTY CRIME FIGHTER!

LET'S GET HIM, **ROBIN**-- SOME BROKEN FIELD RUNNING MIGHT HELP US DODGE HIS ICE GUN!

AN **ICE CHUTE**-- LEADING TO THEIR GETAWAY CAR!

COME ON, **ROBIN**-- **WE'RE** GOING TO RIDE THAT CHUTE TOO!

BUT...

A HEAT RAY-- HE'S **MELTING** THE CHUTE!

HA, HA! DON'T GET HOT UNDER THE COLLAR, **BATMAN!**

THEN... WE'VE GOT OUR **BAT-COPTERS** PARKED ATOP THE TOWERS BUILDING! WE CAN FOLLOW ZERO'S GETAWAY CAR!

WHEW! HIS ICE GUN GIVES HIM A HUNDRED WAYS TO FIGHT US!

NOT LONG AFTER AS THE FLYING PAIR PICK UP MR. ZERO'S TRAIL...

LOOK **BATMAN**- A PATROL CAR 9 RIGHT BEHIND MR. ZERO!

SWOOP DOWN--WE'LL CLOSE IN ON THE GANG TOGETHER WITH THE POLICE!

BUT MR. ZERO AGAIN BRINGS HIS GUN INTO PLAY...

THAT WILL STOP YOU COLD, OFFICERS!

WHAT'S WRONG?

HE **FROZE** OUR MOTOR! IT... CONKED OUT!

SPUTTER-SPUTTER-SPUT...

DO YOU SEE THAT, **BATMAN**?

OPEN YOUR THROTTLE WIDE **ROBIN**-- WE MUSTN'T LOSE THAT CHARACTER NOW!

BUT **BATMAN'S** WARNING CRY COMES TOO LATE AS...

PERFECT SHOT, MR. ZERO--YOU ICED THEIR PROPELLERS, AND THEY'RE FALLING RIGHT INTO YOUR LAIR

YES! AND WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, I'LL HAVE THE MOST **VALUABLE TROPHIES IN THE WORLD!**

A FEW MILES AHEAD...

THEY MUST HAVE DRIVEN INTO A MOUNTAIN CAVE, **BATMAN**! THEY'RE NOT ON THE ROAD

ROBIN! VEER YOUR 'COPTER!

LATER, SMIRKING HOODLUMS OBSERVE FROM THEIR HEATED GALLERY AS MR. ZERO SHOWS HIS "TROPHIES"...

TRAPPED IN ICE CAKES-- TO REMAIN AS LIVING PRIZES FOR MR. ZERO!

THERE YOU ARE, GENTLEMEN! WHILE THE WORLD WONDERS WHAT BECAME OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, I SHALL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF THEIR COMPANY AS LONG AS I DESIRE!

NOW WE ARE READY TO EXECUTE MY MASTER ICE CRIME-- "FREEZING" GOTHAM ARENA DURING THE INTERNATIONAL GEM SHOW!

HMMM

AND AS THE CRIMINAL KING OF COLD MAKES HIS PLANS...

BATMAN-- ROCKING HIS BLOCK OF ICE! BUT EVEN IF HE TIPS IT OVER AND CRACKS IT OPEN, MR. ZERO WILL FREEZE HIM AGAIN!

GOT TO KEEP ROCKING!... IT'S...OUR ONLY CHANCE...

SWOOSH!

ABRUPTLY STEAM ENVELOPS THE ROOM AS HEAT GUSHES FORTH...

YIII! HE SNAPPED THE PIPE LEADING TO THE HEAT GALLERY--THE HOT AND COLD AIR MEETING ARE CREATING STEAM! MY AIR-CONDITIONED SUIT-- I CAN'T SEE TO LOCATE IT!

WOW. THE IMPACT CRACKED OPEN BOTH OUR ICE BLOCKS!

I'VE GOT TO GRAB MR. ZERO BEFORE HE CAN FIND HIS ICE GUN!

THE STEAM IS WEAKENING MR. ZERO-- BUT HE'S FOUND THAT ICE GUN!

I'VE...G-G-GOT... THE... ICE G-GUN...

COLD... M-M-MUST HAVE COLD!

THIS'LL MAKE YOU STIFF AS A BOARD!

THEN, AS THE PANICKY GANG IS LED OUT OF THE ICE CHAMBER...

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I CAN'T SURVIVE IN NORMAL TEMPERATURES! GET ME MY AIR-CONDITIONED SUIT!

IF YOU NEED IT, YOU'LL HAVE IT! **MOVE!**

BUT ONCE OUTSIDE...

WHY...I--CAN BREATHE NORMAL AGAIN!

YES, MR. ZERO, THAT STEAM TREATMENT MUST HAVE CHANGED YOU BACK TO NORMAL! NOW WE'LL SEE IF THE LAW CAN STRAIGHTEN OUT YOUR DISTORTED MIND!

THE END

ULTRA THE MULTI-ALIEN!

THRILL TO HIS SUPER-STRENGTH!

SEE HIM FLY LIKE A BIRD!

YOU'LL BE DRAWN TO HIS MAGNETIC FORCE!

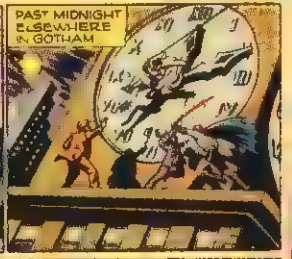
AND DAZZLED BY HIS LIGHTNING POWERS!

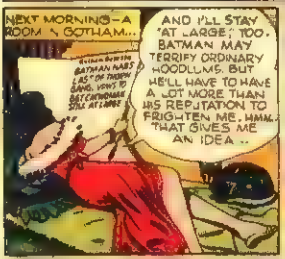
DC
MYSTERY IN SPACE
YOU THINK THIS ULTRA CHARACTER IS A PRETTY COOL HOT-SHOT? WELL, WAIT'LL YOU SEE HOW I OUTSTRIP HIM WITH HIS OWN POWERS!

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

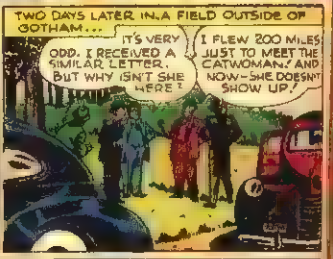
ON SALE OCT. 28th

Complete SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY

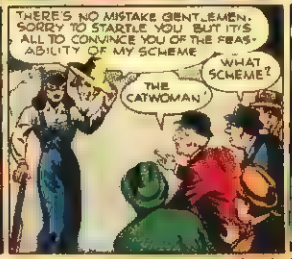


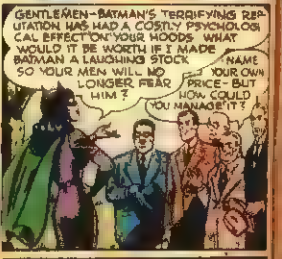

NEXT MORNING—A ROOM IN GOTHAM...
AND I'LL STAY 'AT LARGE,' TOO. BATMAN MAY TERRIFY ORDINARY GOODLUMS, BUT HE'LL HAVE TO HAVE A LOT MORE THAN HIS REPUTATION TO FRIGHTEN ME. HMM. THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA...

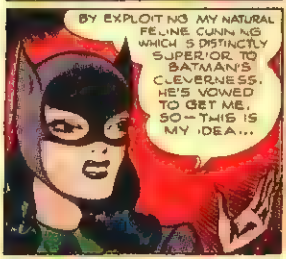
I'LL SEND THESE LETTERS OFF AT ONCE. THE POLISHED GENTLEMEN WHO PULL THE STRINGS FOR THE BIG RACKETS WILL CERTAINLY BE INTERESTED

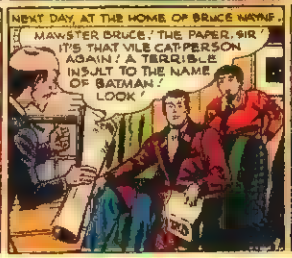

TWO DAYS LATER IN A FIELD OUTSIDE OF GOTHAM...
IT'S VERY ODD. I RECEIVED A SIMILAR LETTER. BUT WHY ISN'T SHE HERE?
I FLEW 200 MILES JUST TO MEET THE CATWOMAN! AND NOW—SHE DOESN'T SHOW UP!

WHAT IN TARNATION DO YE MEAN BY TRESPASSIN' ON MY LAND?
I BEG YOUR PARDON, BUT THERE'S BEEN SOME MISTAKE. WE DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE TRESPASSING


THERE'S NO MISTAKE GENTLEMEN. SORRY TO STARTLE YOU BUT IT'S ALL TO CONVINCE YOU OF THE FEASABILITY OF MY SCHEME
WHAT SCHEME?
THE CATWOMAN!


GENTLEMEN—BATMAN'S TERRIFYING REPUTATION HAS HAD A COSTLY PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ON YOUR MOBS. WHAT WOULD IT BE WORTH IF I MADE BATMAN A LAUGHING STOCK SO YOUR MEN WILL NO LONGER FEAR HIM?
NAME YOUR OWN PRICE—BUT HOW COULD YOU MANAGE IT?


BY EXPLOITING MY NATURAL FELINE CUNNING WHICH IS DISTINCTLY SUPERIOR TO BATMAN'S CLEVERNESS. HE'S VOWED TO GET ME, SO—THIS IS MY IDEA...


NEXT DAY, AT THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE.
MAWSTER BRUCE, THE PAPER, SIR! IT'S THAT VILE CAT-PERSON AGAIN! A TERRIBLE INSULT TO THE NAME OF BATMAN! LOOK!

WELL! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
DO? WHAT ELSE COULD I POSSIBLY DO? I'M GOING TO ACCEPT THE CATWOMAN'S CHALLENGE!
CATWOMAN DEFIES BATMAN TO NAB HER IN NATIONWIDE CHASE.

BAT MAN AND ROBIN
TO NULLIFY BATMAN'S TERRORIZING EFFECT ON CROOKS, THE CATWOMAN, SOUGHT BY THE POLICE AND BACKED BY LEADING CRIME CZARS, SENDS THE NEWSPAPERS A CHALLENGE TO BATMAN
THE CATWOMAN ACTUALLY DEFIES YOU TO CATCH HER IN A NATION-WIDE CHASE!
AND SHE'S SO CONFIDENT, SHE EVEN REVEALS HER ROUTES AND THE TIMES OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE
SHE PLANS TO LEAVE FOR PITTSBURGH FIRST ON THE 7 A.M. TRAIN TOMORROW. CAN IT BE A GAG, BRUCE?
I DOUBT IT! SHE'S REALLY OUT TO MAKE A FOOL OF THE BATMAN! YOU'LL SEE THIS IS ONE CHALLENGE BATMAN CAN'T AFFORD TO OVERLOOK
BUT IF SHE'S DISGUISED, HOW'LL WE EVER DISTINGUISH HER FROM THE OTHERS ON THAT TRAIN?
SEARCHING ALL THE PASSENGERS WOULD BE PRETTY NASTY. HM-THAT PITTSBURGH TRAIN ONLY CARRIES TWO COACHES THAT MIGHT HELP!
NEXT MORNING, THE NEWS BRINGS A CURIOUS CROWD TO GOTHAM TERMINAL HOPING TO SPOT BATMAN AND THE CATWOMAN BOARDING THE PITTSBURGH TRAIN
STAND BACK! THE TRAIN'S ALREADY PULLING OUT, AND THEY'RE NOT ON IT!
PITTSBURGH
DEPARTS 7:05
THE PICKED MEN OF THE FORCE'LL VOUCH FOR THAT!
BUT ON THE TRAIN, SHORTLY AFTER IT PULLS OUT, AN ELDERLY GENTLEMAN STANDS NEAR THE WATER-COOLER AND...
A MASTER OF DISGUISE LIKE THE CATWOMAN COULD BE ALMOST ANYONE ON THIS TRAIN. BUT SHE'S NOT LIKELY TO GO THIS WHOLE TRIP WITHOUT A DRINK OF WATER...
PRESENTLY, IN THE BAGGAGE ROOM...
WELL-SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE IN MY COACH, BATMAN.
WE'RE ALMOST IN PITTSBURGH! I'VE GOT TO FINISH CHECKING THE CUPS FROM MY COACH FAST! HUH? WHAT'S THIS?
CAPE
THE CATWOMAN'S THUMBPRINT! CUP NUMBER SEVEN. THAT WOULD BE THE ELDERLY LADY IN THE GREEN HAT!
SECONDS LATER, IN THE REAR COACH CAR...
GUESS THIS ENDS OUR RACE, CATWOMAN!
BATMAN!
THE RACE ISN'T OVER YET! I WASN'T TAKING ANY CHANCES!
HUH??
CATWOMAN! STOP, DON'T DO IT! YOU'LL BE KILLED JUMPING OFF AT THIS SPEED!

BAT MAN
ROBIN
WHAT HAPPENED, BATMAN? WHAT'S THE IDEA PULLING THE EMERGENCY BRAKE?
THE CATWOMAN JUMPED OFF AND WENT OVER THE BRIDGE! SHE MUST HAVE BEEN OUT OF HER MIND.
BATMAN WAS JUST ENGAGED TO CATWOMAN IN ARRANGING TO CROSS PITTSBURGH WHEN THE CLEVER WOMAN GRIM NAL LEAPS FROM THE REAR PLATFORM TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE HER DEATH!
BUT JUST ALONGSIDE THE BRIDGE
BATMAN ALMOST GOT ME, LUCK! I ARRANGED THIS IN ADVANCE FOR AN EMERGENCY
NICE JUMP CATWOMAN
SHORTLY AFTER...
HOLY SMOKE-LOO!
A KEY THAT JUMP WAS PLANNED IN ADVANCE SHE'S GOTTEN AWAY
A HALF HOUR LATER ON THE ROOF OF A PITTSBURGH BUILDING
WE OBVIOUSLY CAN'T COMB ALL PITTSBURGH FOR HER. WHAT'S HER NEXT MOVE?
THE LATER ROUTE TO NASH-VILLE TENNESSEE CUT THAT WAY TO THE OHIO, WHICH LEADS INTO THE CUMBERLAND RIVER WHERE NASHVILLE IS LOCATED
ACCORDING TO THE LETTER THE CATWOMAN SENT THE PAPER, SHE'LL TAKE THE STEAMER, SOUTHERN MAID. WE'LL BE BETTER ABLE TO SEARCH FOR HER WITH THESE DISGUISES.
DO I HAVE TO BE A GIRL?
SHORTLY AFTER...
HOW I HATE THIS OUTFIT, BATMAN.
DROP THE BATMAN RE-MEMBER I'M PAPA AND YOU'RE "LULU BELLE" AS A MISCHIEVOUS LITTLE GIRL, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HELP UNCOVER THE CAT-WOMAN'S POSSIBLE DISGUISES
SOME HOURS LATER, AS THE STEAMER CHURNS THROUGH MUDDY INLAND WATERS...
BEEN OVER THE WHOLE BOAT THREE TIMES AND SPOTTED ONLY THIS ONE W.G. SHE COULD BE. THE CATWOMAN WELL HERE GOES
ULP! WRONG SUSPECT!
EEK!
LULU BELLE! CAN'T YOU EVER BEHAVE?
SIR—IS THAT LITTLE IMP YOUR DAUGHTER?
I REGRET TO ADMIT SHE IS. ALLOW ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR LULU BELLE'S MISCHIEF, MA'AM!
AND LET THIS BE A LESSON IN THE PROPER BRINGING UP OF CHILDREN

BAT MAN
ROBIN
DISGUISED RESPECTIVELY AS A SOUTHERN PLANTATION OWNER AND HIS YOUNG DAUGHTER, BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEK THE ELUSIVE CATWOMAN ON A RIVER STEAMER BEARING NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.
AFTER SNATCHING OFF THAT WOMAN'S WIG AND DISCOVERING SHE WASN'T THE CATWOMAN, I FEEL PRETTY FOOLISH.
HM-THERE'S NO REASON WHY THE CATWOMAN COULDN'T HAVE DISGUISED HERSELF AS A MAN.
KEEP GAZING UP SO PEOPLE WILL AUTOMATICALLY LOOK UP TO SEE WHAT WE'RE STARING AT.
ALL RIGHT, BUT HOW'LL THAT HELP US FIND THE CATWOMAN?
WOULD YOU MIND EXPLAINING-HUH?
JUST A MOMENT
EXCELLENT DISGUISE, CATWOMAN, BUT A MAN WITHOUT AN ADAM'S APPLE, IS LIKELY TO BE A WOMAN! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LOOKED UP SO CURIOUSLY!
BAT MAN!
THE CAT WOMAN
SUDDENLY...
QUICK-STOP HIM!
BATMAN-WATCH OUT!
THANKS, BOYS, SEE YOU AT THE GREEK'S IN NASHVILLE!
OUT OF MY WAY.
BATMAN'S UNCONSCIOUS! IF I CAN ONLY REACH HIM IN TIME!
GOT HIM!

BATMAN
ROBIN
BATMAN'S STILL OUT.' NO TIME TO SWIM AROUND THAT POWERFUL WAKE WITHOUT BE NG SUCKED INTO THE PADDLES. HAVE TO DIVE WITH BATMAN. DISGUISE AND
PUBLICLY GOADED INTO A NATIONAL DE CHASE OF THE CATWOMAN BATMAN AND ROBIN, A STEAMER HEADING NASHVILLE HAVING UNMASKED BY ARE SUDDENLY HURLED OVERBOARD INTO THE PATH OF THE SHIP'S CHURNING PADDLES...
WHEW! MADE IT. NOW FOR A SWIM TO SHORE. SEEMS AS IF THE CATWOMAN DIVED FROM THE SHIP HOURS AGO BUT ACTUALLY IT'S ONLY BEEN MINUTES.
LATER, AFTER A LONG HARD PULL TO THE RIVER BANK...
NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE CATWOMAN?
AS ONE OF HER THUGS ON THE CREW KNOCKED YOU OVERBOARD, GUESS SHE'S IN NASHVILLE BY NOW.
FIRST- OFF WITH THIS DISGUISE THEN TO PLAN FOR THE CAT WOMAN'S NEXT STOP!
WAIT! I HEARD HER SAY SOMETHING ABOUT PAYING OFF THOSE CREWMEN WHO HELPED HER ESCAPE. ASKED THEM TO MEET HER AT THE GREEK'S!
PRESENTLY...
HM- THE CATWOMAN PLANS SPENDING AN HOUR IN NASHVILLE BEFORE HEADING FOR MIAMI BY PLANE. SO WE'VE HARDLY TIME TO FIGURE WHAT GREEK SHE MEANT.
AND THOSE CREWMEN WHO HELPED HER WOULD'VE DOCKED BY NOW.
COULD SHE HAVE MEANT A RESTAURANT, OR -
THE STATE HOUSE! GREEK ARCHITECTURE. ROBIN- MAYBE THAT'S IT!!
BUT THE CATWOMAN WOULDN'T MEET THOSE MEN AT THE STATE HOUSE WHEN SHE'S WANTED BY THE POLICE! OR WOULD SHE?
I DON'T THINK SHE WOULD, BUT IT REMINDED ME- AT CENTENNIAL PARK, THERE'S AN EXCELLENT REPRODUCTION OF THE PARTHENON.
SHORTLY AFTER- CENTENNIAL PARK, SCENE OF THE 1897 TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION.
A WILD GUESS, BATMAN, BUT I'LL TRY STALLING THOSE THUGS IF I SPOT THEM COMING.
I HARDLY SAW THE CREW-MAN WHO SLUGGED ME, BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET BY IN THE DARKNESS
PRESENTLY...
WELL, CATWOMAN- HERE I AM!
ER-YES THE OTHERS NOT HERE YET? WELL- HERE'S YOUR PAYOFF.
UNFORTUNATELY BATMAN THOSE MEN WHO HELPED ME ESCAPE ON THAT STEAMER DIDN'T KNOW I WAS THE CATWOMAN!

BAT MA
ROBIN
FROM CITY TO CITY BATMAN CONTINUES HIS PURSUIT OF THE ELUSIVE CATWOMAN, WHO, BACKED BY LEADING CRIME CZARS, SEEKS TO EXPLODE HIS GR M REPUTATION UNTIL, ONE EVENING, IN CENTENNIA, PARK AT NASHVILLE, TENN.
YOUR DISGUISE WASN T VERY HELPFUL, BATMAN. I CONT NUE TO OUT WIT YOU AT EVERY TURN.
THE LAST TURN HASN'T BEEN CALLED YET. REMEMBER THAT.'
DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME, OR I'LL SHOOT.'
I CAN'T LET HER GET AWAY.'
SUDDENLY...
STOP! I WARN YOU.//
IF I MOVE FAST ENOUGH--!
MEANWHILE, ON WATCH FOR THE CATWOMAN'S CONFEDERATES...
NO SIGN OF THE CATWOMAN'S THUGS YET. WONDER HOW BATMAN IS MAKING OUT?
BANG
THAT SHOT FROM THE PARTHENON BL LDING! AND BATMAN DOESN'T CARRY A GUN.'
BATMAN
M ALL RIGHT THE CATWOMAN HAD A GUN ON ME. I SNATCHED T FROM HER WITH THE BATARANG AS SHE ESCAPED. BUT I YANKED TOO HARD ON THE LINE--
AND THE GUN BOUNDED BACK AND STRUCK MY HEAD DAZING ME LONG ENOUGH FOR THE CATWOMAN TO GET AWAY!
SHE'S HEADED FOR THAT PLANE TO MIAMI. COME ON! WE MAY STILL CATCH HER.
AND SO THE GRASSHOPPER CHASE CONTINUES! MIAMI, THEN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, FOLLOWED BY QU CK JUMPS TO LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, NEW ORLEANS, MINNEAPOLIS, CHICAGO... THUS A WEEK PASSES...
LAS VEGAS
LONG BEACH
NEW ORLEANS
MINNEAPOLIS
CHICAGO
MEN--YOU WERE ASSEMBLED HERE N GOTHAM TO BE SHOWN THAT BATMAN ,SN'T THE MENACE YOU IMAGINE. SEE HOW A LONE WOMAN HAS ELUDED HIM N CITY AFTER CITY DESPITE HIS KNOWING HER ROUTE.'
WAIT!'
EVEN THE PAPERS ADMIT BATMAN'S ST LL AFTER THE CATWOMAN. BUT IS THE CATWOMAN REALLY STICKING TO HER ROUTE?
I'M GLAD YOU ASKED, BECAUSE WHAT YOU'LL SEE NEXT SHOULD END BATMAN'S REPUTATION FOR GOOD.//

BATMAN AND ROBIN
BOYS—OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS COVERED MOST OF THE CATWOMAN'S ROUTE. SO, WE'VE GENUINE PROOF THAT BATMAN'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT. THAT SLIDE LANTERN READY BACK THERE?
ALL SET.
WHILE THE CATWOMAN CONTINUES TO ELUDE BATMAN, GOTHAM'S CRIME CZARS CALL THEIR HOODS TOGETHER, AS HE CATWOMAN'S SUCCESS AS AN EXAMPLE TO DISPEL ALL FEAR OF THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER.....
ALL RIGHT—LET'S HAVE THE FIRST SLIDE!
HERE IT COMES—TAKEN IN FRONT OF THE POST OFFICE IN LAS VEGAS NEVADA.
OKAY...LET'S HAVE THE NEXT ONE—JUST OUTSIDE MIAMI.
YOU SEE—HE GOT CLOSE, BUT SHE ALWAYS GOT AWAY.
AND NOW... NEW ORLEANS... LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE CHASE, DOESN'T IT? BUT WATCH—
YES—SHE GOT AWAY THAT TIME, TOO. AND NOW—LIGHTS, PLEASE.
AND THE CATWOMAN HERSELF WILL PROVIDE FINAL PROOF THAT YOU NEEDN'T FEAR THE BATMAN WHEN SHE ARRIVES HERE TONIGHT TO GIVE A FULL ACCOUNT OF HER ADVENTURES
MEANWHILE, IN A MEADOW JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY OF CHICAGO...
THIS ENDS THE CHASE, BATMAN, AND NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'VE AN APPOINTMENT IN GOTHAM CITY!
WHAT'S THE IDEA ASKING ME TO WAIT BACK THERE? IF I'D BEEN ALONG, WE'D HAVE STOPPED HER. NOW—WE'VE REALLY FAILED.
ON THE CONTRARY, ROBIN, WE'VE SUCCEEDED!
ARE YOU MAD? SHE'S GETTING AWAY!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED HER TO DO.
HUH??

BAT MAN
ROBIN
IN A FIELD OUTSIDE CHICAGO, BATMAN HAS JUST TOLD ROBIN THAT HE HAS DELIBERATELY ALLOWED THE CATWOMAN TO MAKE A PLANE GETAWAY AND HEAD FOR GOTHAM CITY...
BUT WHY? WHY?
I DIDN'T TELL YOU, BUT I COULD'VE NABBED HER A DOZEN TIMES SINCE FLORIDA. I PURPOSELY LET HER ESCAPE.
I REALIZED THAT MERE VANITY COULDN'T HAVE EXPLAINED HER ATTEMPT TO RUIN MY REPUTATION. THERE WERE TOO MANY OTHERS INVOLVED. HER ESCAPES WERE ALL WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE. SO—
—I DEDUCED THAT SOME BIG CRIME COMBINE IS BEHIND HER. AND I WANT HER TO LEAD US TO HER EMPLOYERS
BUT WE'VE LOST HER. HOW CAN WE FOLLOW HER WITHOUT A PLANE?
AS YOU SEE, I ARRANGED THAT, TOO!
ALFRED AND HE'S BROUGHT THE BAT PLANE!
GREETINGS AND SUCH! I FLEW THE BALLY THING HERE AS SOON AS I GOT YOUR CALL. BATMAN
LATER...
PARDON MY CURIOSITY, BUT THERE'S A LOT OF SKY BETWEEN HERE AND GOTHAM. HOW'RE WE GOING TO LOCATE THE CATWOMAN'S PLANE IN ORDER TO FOLLOW IT?
HERE, LOOK, BELOW
I LET THE CATWOMAN KICK ME OFF HER PLANE AND ESCAPE, BUT NOT BEFORE I'D PLANTED A LITTLE SENDING GADGET ON THE SIDE SO WE COULD TRACE HER BY RADIO BEAM!
SOME TIME AFTER—AN OPEN FIELD NEAR GOTHAM CITY...
SHE'S HERE, GENTLEMEN—RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!
PERFECT TIMING. SHE'S SAVED US A FORTUNE BY SHOWING OUR BOYS THEY NEEDN'T BE AFRAID OF BATMAN
BUT AS CROOKS FLOCK TOGETHER, JUSTICE SUDDENLY ZOOMS FROM THE SKIES.
BATMAN, AT THE LAST MINUTE!
HUH! THE BAT-PLANE! THERE'S BEEN A SLIP UP
SCATTER! RUN!
HELP!
CAUGHT IN A DRAGNET!!
WELL, YOUNGSTER—I GUESS THIS WINDS UP THE CHASE!
BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME, THAT EVENING...
I GUESS BATMAN'S REPUTATION IS STILL PRETTY GRIM, EH?
TOO GRIM. THINGS MAY BE DULL FOR A WHILE BECAUSE EVERY LOCAL CROOK'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE PULLING ANYTHING FOR SOME TIME
CATWOMAN AND HEAD OF CRIME COMBINE NABBED!
MYSTERIOUS BASE ENDS IN TRIUMPH FOR BATMAN!

BENEATH THE WAYNE HOME LIES A HIDDEN, SUBTERRANEAN CAVERN... THE FAMED **BATCAVE**, NERVE-CENTER OF THE UNTIRING WAR AGAINST CRIME WAGED BY THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE **BOY WONDER**! ONLY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE EVER PENETRATED THESE CAVERNS, UNDISCOVERED SINCE THE GREAT STONE AGE — UNTIL A STRANGER ENTERS ITS TWISTING TUNNEL — A HULKING, SAVAGE STRANGER WEARING A BEAR SKIN! CERTAINLY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** NEVER FACED A GREATER MENACE THAN...

THE CAVEMAN AT LARGE

IN THE TROPHY ROOM OF THE **BATCAVE** UNDER THE BRUCE WAYNE MANSION, A NEW SOUVENIR OF A SUCCESSFUL CRIME HUNT IS PLACED DOWN CAREFULLY...

NO ONE WOULD EVER GUESS A CRIMINAL HAD HOLLOWED OUT THE STONE HEAD OF THAT CLUB AND PUT AN EXPLOSIVE INSIDE IT!

WHEN THE CRIMINAL GAVE THAT TO THE GOTHAM NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, HE THOUGHT HE'D GET RID OF THE MAN HE HATED — THE HEAD OF THE ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT!

DON'T YOU THINK WE OUGHT TO REMOVE THE EXPLOSIVE?

WE CAN DO IT LATER, **ROBIN**! RIGHT NOW IT'S TIME WE DID OUR USUAL PATROL IN THE **BATMOBILE**!

MEANWHILE, ON THE SET OF THE MOVIE, "STONE AGE MAN"...

IT'S AMAZING! ANYONE WOULD THINK CARLIN REALLY IS A CAVEMAN!

THAT'S WHAT MAKES CARLIN A GREAT ACTOR! CARLIN IMMERSES HIMSELF IN A PART UNTIL HE ALMOST LIVES IT!

LATER, WHILE CAMERAS GRIND, CARLIN ENACTS HIS ROLE OF THE HULKING CAVEMAN...

I AM GOTH--SLAYER OF BEASTS!

SUDDENLY, A CHUNK OF "TUSK" BREAKS AND DROPS FROM THE MECHANICAL MONSTER...

A STUDIO DOCTOR IS HASTILY SUMMONED, AND SOON...

HE'S COMING TO!

UHH..

SUDDENLY, EYES GLARING, CARLIN BELLOWS SAVAGELY.

YOU TRY TAKE GOTH CAPTIVE--BUT GOTH TOO STRONG FOR YOU!

GOTH ESCAPES!

WHAT...?

THAT BLOW ON THE HEAD HAS AFFECTED HIS BRAIN! HE'S PLAYED THE PART OF A CAVEMAN SO LONG, HE REALLY THINKS HE IS ONE NOW!

SOON AFTER, IN THE **BATMOBILE**, A NEWS BULLETIN IS HEARD BY THE **DYNAMIC DUO**...

...AND CARLIN IS STILL AT LARGE! CITIZENS ARE WARNED THAT IN HIS PRESENT STATE OF MIND, CARLIN IS DANGEROUS!

ROBIN, SOMEWAY, SOMEHOW, WE'VE GOT TO FIND CARLIN AND GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT!

SUDDENLY, A GROTESQUE FIGURE IS CAUGHT IN THE GLARE OF HEADLIGHTS!

UGH! A GREAT BEAST ATTACKS GOTH--A BEAST WITH SHINING EYES!

BEAST WILL FEEL THE BITE OF GOTH'S SPEAR!

GREAT SCOTT! IT'S CARLIN! I'LL RUN HIM DOWN UNLESS I CUT THE WHEEL--HARD!

NOT EVEN THE **BATMOBILE** CAN WITHSTAND THAT ABRUPT TURN AND...

I AM GOTH--SLAYER OF BEASTS!

THEN, AS THE HEADLIGHTS OF ONCOMING CARS ILLUME THE SHAGGY FIGURE...

UGH! MORE BEASTS! NOT EVEN GOTH CAN SLAY SUCH A BEAST-PACK! GOTH MUST ESCAPE!

MOMENTS LATER, DAZED BUT UNHURT, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS RISE FROM THEIR CRIPPLED CAR...

IF THAT HAD BEEN ANY OTHER CAR THAN THE **BATMOBILE**, WE WOULDN'T BE ALIVE!

WE BUILT THE **BATMOBILE** TO TAKE CRASHES! WELL... NOW LET'S SEE IF WE CAN PICK UP CARLIN'S TRAIL!

BUT THE SEARCH IS FUTILE, AND THEY SOON DRIVE HOME AND GARAGE THE **BATMOBILE** IN THE SUBTERRANEAN **BAT-CAVE**...

WE'D BETTER GO UP INTO THE HOUSE AND LISTEN TO THE POLICE ALARMS! CARLIN MAY HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BY NOW!

AT THAT MOMENT...

GOOD! GOTH'S SHARP EYES FIND A CAVE! GOTH WILL EXPLORE NEW HOME!

AND SO, AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, THE MODERN "CAVEMAN" IS MYSTERIOUSLY GUIDED TO THE HIDDEN ENTRANCE OF THE **BAT-CAVE**

LATER, IN THE MAYNE MANSION ABOVE THE BAT-CAVE, A WARNING BELL CLANGS..

BRR-RRNG! BRR-RRNG!

THE ELECTRO-EYE ALARM!

SOMEONE'S IN THE BAT-CAVE!

HASTILY SLIPPING ON THEIR ACTION GARB, BATMAN AND ROBIN DESCEND TO THE HIDDEN LAIR, WHERE SUDDENLY..

SNARES!

AND WE WALKED RIGHT INTO THEM!

A SPLIT INSTANT LATER, THE TRAP IS SPRUNG

CARLIN!

CAVE IS GOTH'S HOME NOW! GOTH IS CUNNING! GOTH MAKES YOU HIS CAPTIVES!

STRANGE THINGS HERE! GOTH NO WANT THEM!

HE'LL SMASH ALL OUR LAB EQUIPMENT! I'VE GOT TO DISTRACT HIM... SO WE CAN FREE OURSELVES WITHOUT HIM NOTICING IT!

LIKE A PENDULUM, SWINGING IN EVER-WIDENING ARCS, BATMAN FINALLY IS WITHIN REACH OF THE TROPHY ROOM DOOR ..

GREAT LIZARD-BEAST! GOTH IS NOT AFRAID! I AM GOTH, SLAYER OF BEASTS!

IT WORKED, ROBIN! HE'S CHALLENGING THAT PHONY TYRANNOSAURUS!

WHILE CARL N FLINGS HIS STONE-TIPPED SPEAR INTO THE DINOSAUR TROPHY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** USE THE PRECIOUS MOMENTS TO FREE THEMSELVES...

UGH! GOTH WILL NEED A WEAPON!

WHIRLING, HE SNATCHES UP THE ONE TROPHY THAT IS A RELIC OF THE PAST!

GREAT SCOTT! HE'S GOT THE STONE AGE CLUB LOADED WITH THE **EXPLOSIVE!**

IF HE HITS ANYTHING WITH THAT CLUB, THE JAR WILL SET OFF THE EXPLOSIVE!

LIZARD-BEAST STILL STANDS! NOT EVEN GOTH CAN FIGHT LIZARD-BEAST AND THESE BIRD-MEN, TOO!

GOTH MUST ESCAPE! GOTH IS CUNNING! GOTH WILL FIGHT ANOTHER TIME!

WE CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY WITH THAT EXPLOSIVE! COME ON!

THROUGH THE VAULTED LIMESTONE CAVERNS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** PURSUE A MAN WHO SEEMS TO BELONG AMID THESE GROTESQUE WALLS...

THERE HE IS!

QUICK, **ROBIN!** USE YOUR **BAT-FLASHLIGHT!** HE'LL THINK IT'S A PREHISTORIC PTERODACTYL AND IT MAY THROW HIM OFF-GUARD SO I CAN GET UP AT HIM!

THE RUSE WORKS FOR, AN INSTANT LATER...

UH! BLACK FLYING CREATURE COMES AT GOTH!

NOW!

LOCKED IN COMBAT, THE STEEL-MUSCLED **BATMAN** PITS HIS POWER AGAINST THE SAVAGE STRENGTH OF THE DERANGED ACTOR!

ARRGH!

SUDDENLY, CARLIN SLIPS, BANGS HIS HEAD AGAINST A JUTTING STALAGMITE...

BATMAN! THE CLUB-- IT'S FALLING!

CRACK

MISSED!

GOT IT! =PHEW!=

OHH--MY HEAD! THAT TUSK--REALLY CONKED ME! OHHH!

HE'S COMING TO--AND HE'S GOT HIS MEMORY BACK! WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM UPSTAIRS BEFORE HE SEES THE **BAT-CAVE** AND FIGURES OUT OUR SECRET IDENTITY!

SWIFTLY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** RESUME THEIR BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON ROLES, JUST AS CARLIN'S EYES START TO OPEN...

UH? HOW DID I GET HERE?

WE...ER...FOUND YOU WANDERING AROUND ON THE ROAD! YOU'VE HAD A NASTY CRACK ON THE HEAD, BUT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW!

MIDNIGHT! I MUST HAVE BEEN WANDERING AROUND FOR HOURS! FUNNY- I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT I'VE DONE OR WHERE I'VE BEEN!

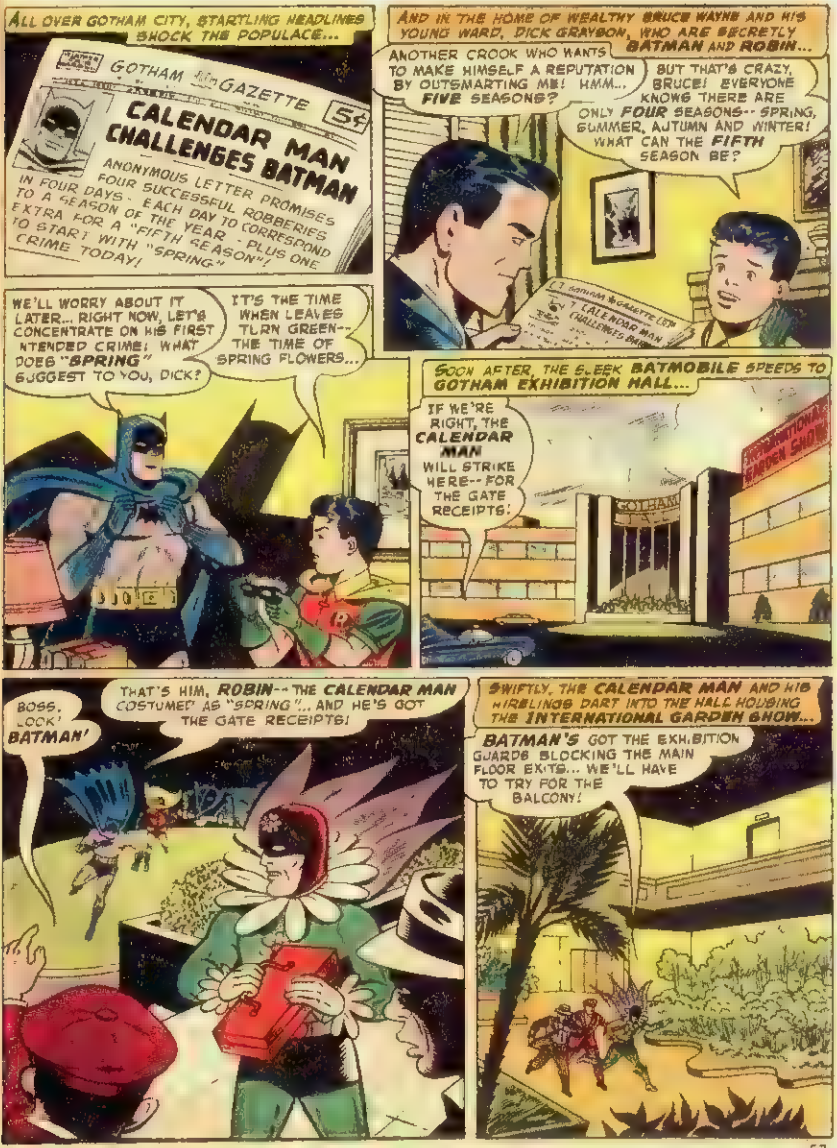
AND A GOOD THING YOU DON'T--BECAUSE THAT MEANS THE LOCATION OF THE **BAT-CAVE** IS STILL OUR SECRET!

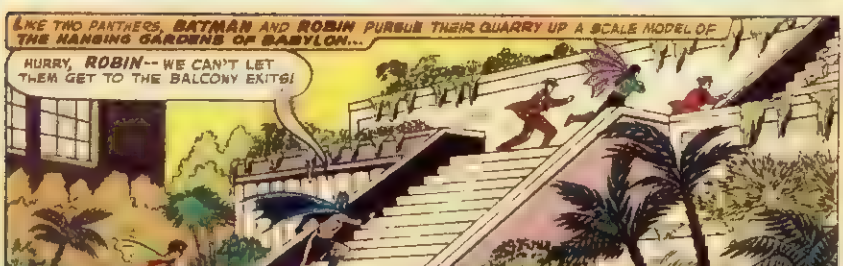
BONG!

BONG!

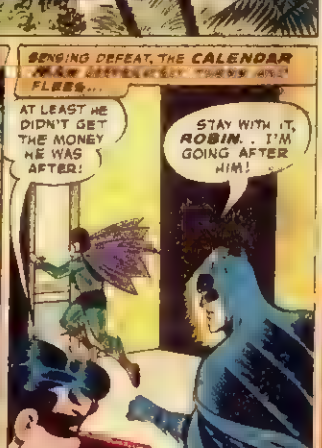
THE END

BATMAN
WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
LOOK, BATMAN-- IT'S THE CALENDAR MAN, WEARING A COSTUME SUGGESTING THE WINTER SEASON!
DIAMOND EXHIBIT
IN THE PAST, BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE FOUGHT AND CONQUERED MANY FANTASTIC CRIMINALS-- BUT NOW THEY ARE FACED BY A BIZARRE BANDIT WHO IS FIVE CRIMINALS IN ONE... A BANDIT WHO WEARS FIVE COSTUMES, A BANDIT WHO PLANS HIS CRIMES TO FIT FIVE SEASONS! WHAT?... YOU SAY THERE ARE ONLY FOUR SEASONS? THAT'S WHAT BATMAN THOUGHT, TOO-- UNTIL HE ACCEPTED...
The CHALLENGE OF THE CALENDAR MAN

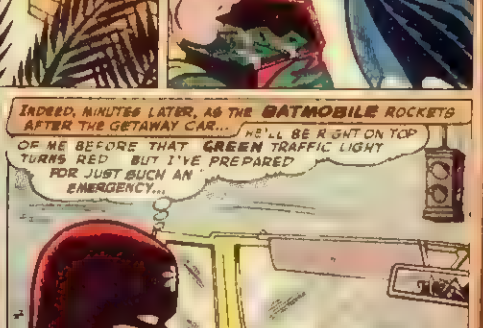

ALL OVER GOTHAM CITY, STARTLING HEADLINES SHOCK THE POPULACE...
GOTHAM GAZETTE 5¢
CALENDAR MAN CHALLENGES BATMAN
ANONYMOUS LETTER PROMISES FOUR SUCCESSFUL ROBBERIES IN FOUR DAYS - EACH DAY TO CORRESPOND TO A "SEASON OF THE YEAR - PLUS ONE EXTRA FOR A "FIFTH SEASON"! TO START WITH "SPRING"... CRIME TODAY!
AND IN THE HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, WHO ARE SECRETLY BATMAN AND ROBIN...
ANOTHER CROOK WHO WANTS TO MAKE HIMSELF A REPUTATION BY OUTSMARTING ME! HMM... FIVE SEASONS?
BUT THAT'S CRAZY, BRUCE! EVERYONE KNOWS THERE ARE ONLY FOUR SEASONS-- SPRING, SUMMER, AUTUMN AND WINTER! WHAT CAN THE FIFTH SEASON BE?
WE'LL WORRY ABOUT IT LATER... RIGHT NOW, LET'S CONCENTRATE ON HIS FIRST INTENDED CRIME! WHAT DOES "SPRING" SUGGEST TO YOU, DICK?
IT'S THE TIME WHEN LEAVES TURN GREEN-- THE TIME OF SPRING FLOWERS...
SOON AFTER, THE SLEEK BATMOBILE SPEEDS TO GOTHAM EXHIBITION HALL...
IF WE'RE RIGHT, THE CALENDAR MAN WILL STRIKE HERE-- FOR THE GATE RECEIPTS!
INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW
GOTHAM
BOSS, LOOK! BATMAN!
THAT'S HIM, ROBIN-- THE CALENDAR MAN COSTUMED AS "SPRING"... AND HE'S GOT THE GATE RECEIPTS!
SWIFTLY, THE CALENDAR MAN AND HIS HIRELINGS DART INTO THE HALL HOUSING THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW...
BATMAN'S GOT THE EXHIBITION GUARDS BLOCKING THE MAIN FLOOR EXITS... WE'LL HAVE TO TRY FOR THE BALCONY!


LIKE TWO PANTHERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN PURSUE THEIR QUARRY UP A SCALE MODEL OF THE HANGING GARDENS OF BABYLON...
HURRY, ROBIN--WE CAN'T LET THEM GET TO THE BALCONY EXITS!

THERE, AMID THE ANCIENT SETTING, THE MODERN CRIME FIGHTERS CLOSE IN...
THIS WILL TAKE SOME OF THE "SPRING" OUT OF YOU!


SENSING DEFEAT, THE CALENDAR MAN [illegible] FLEES...
AT LEAST HE DIDN'T GET THE MONEY HE WAS AFTER!
STAY WITH IT, ROBIN. . I'M GOING AFTER HIM!

OUTSIDE A GETAWAY CAR! WAITING FOR HIM. WELL, NO MATTER HOW FAST IT IS, IT CAN'T OUTSPEED THE BATMOBILE!


INDEED, MINUTES LATER, AS THE BATMOBILE ROCKETS AFTER THE GETAWAY CAR...
HE'LL BE RIGHT ON TOP OF ME BEFORE THAT GREEN TRAFFIC LIGHT TURNS RED BUT I'VE PREPARED FOR JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY...

MAKING A SUDDEN TURN INTO THE INTERSECTION, THE **CALENDAR MAN** POINTS A POWERFUL SPRAY GUN BACK AT THE **RED** TRAFFIC LIGHT...

NOW I'LL JUST TURN THAT **RED** LIGHT INTO **GREEN**, WITH THIS SPRAY.. HA, HA!

SEEING THE **GREEN** LIGHT, THE CROSS TRAFFIC STARTS MOVING -- RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE PURSUING **BATMOBILE!**

HE BLOCKED ME OFF!

THAT NIGHT, THE LATE EDITION NEWS HEADLINES THE RESULTS OF THE BATTLE OF WITS...

GOTHAM GAZETTE 5¢

BATMAN SAVES LOOT, BUT CALENDAR MAN ESCAPES

... AND, ELSEWHERE, THE **CALENDAR MAN** MAKES A GRIM VOW...

WHILE IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE**, BENEATH THE WAYNE MANSION...

FORGET IT FOR NOW, **ROBIN**... LET'S CONCENTRATE ON WHAT **SUMMER** SUGGESTS- THE HOT SUN -- BASEBALL BEACHES -- PRETTY GIRLS IN BATHING SUITS...

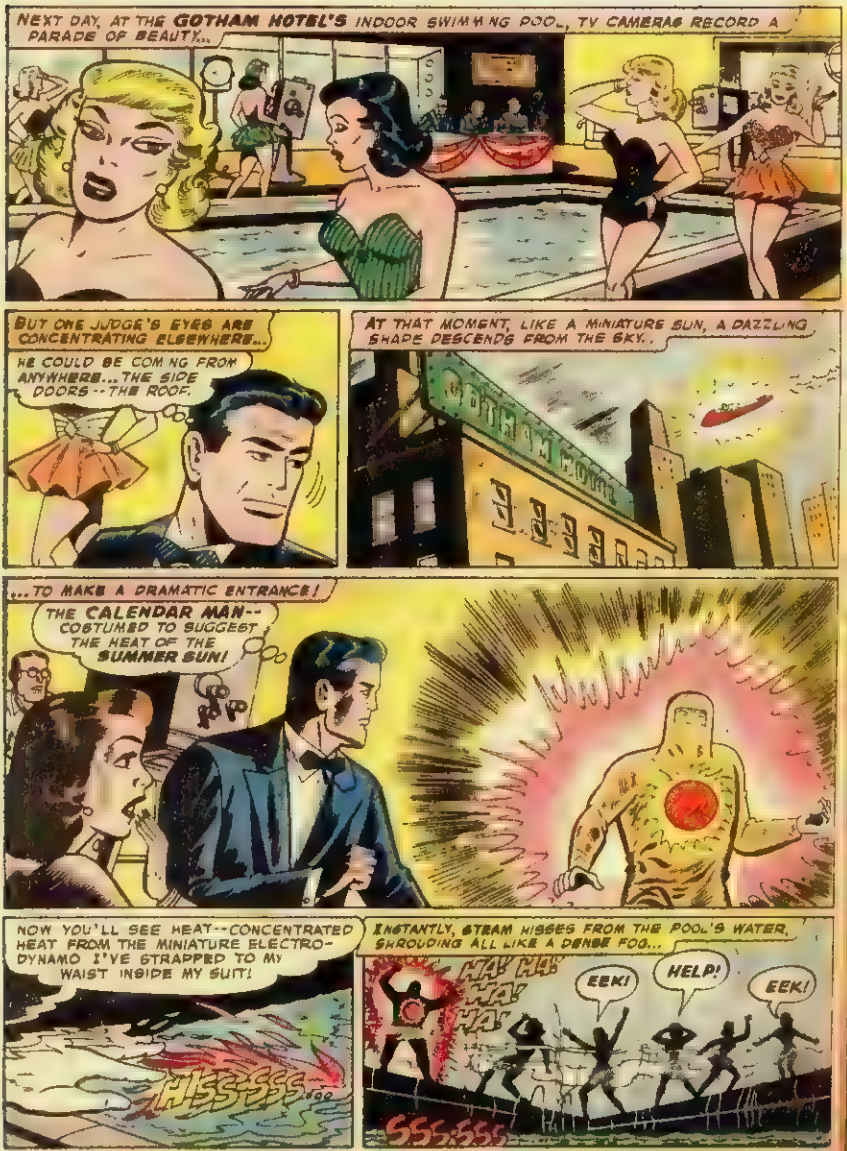
THE "FIFTH SEASON"! WHAT IS IT? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

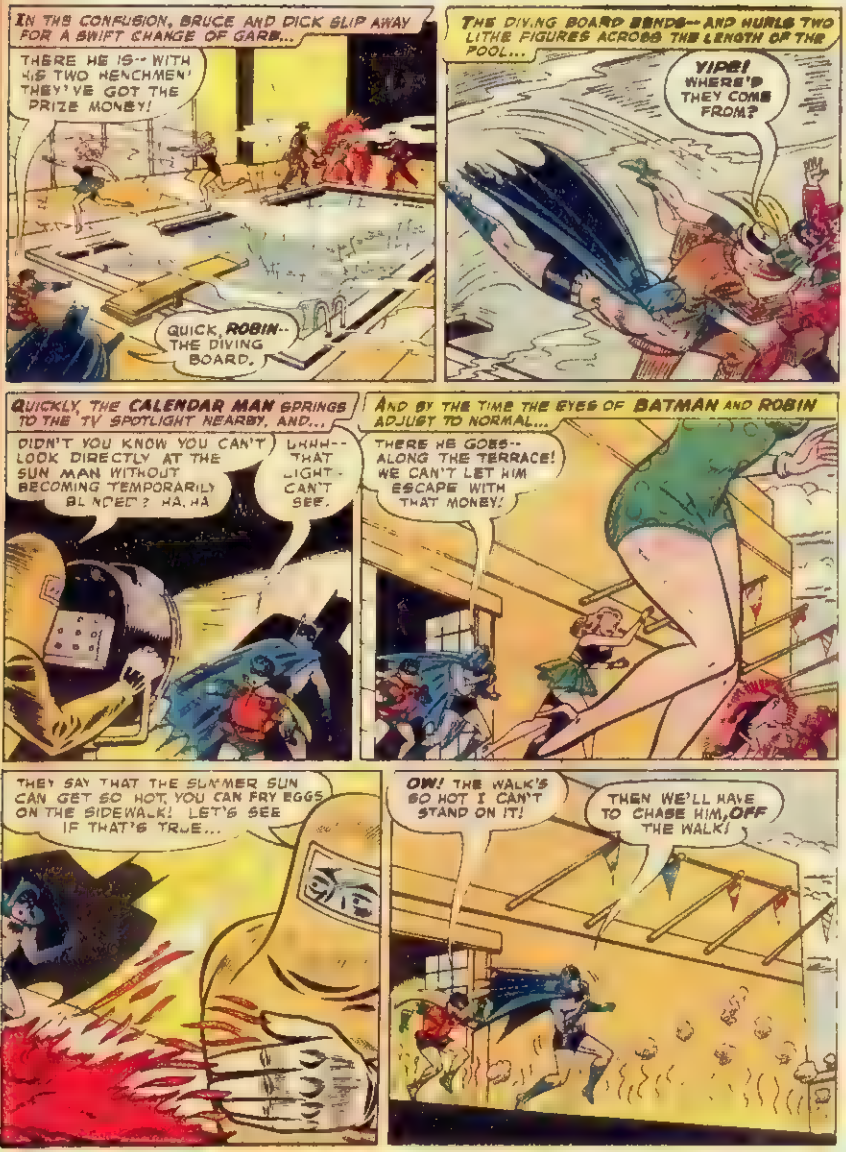
BATMAN'S CLEVER -- BUT NOT CLEVER ENOUGH TO STOP ME.. AND NOT CLEVER ENOUGH TO REALIZE THE "**FIFTH SEASON**" IS A CLUE TO MY IDENTITY!

THAT'S IT!... THE **GOTHAM BATHING BEAUTY CONTEST** TOMORROW -- AND THE $50,000 CASH PRIZE TO THE WINNER!

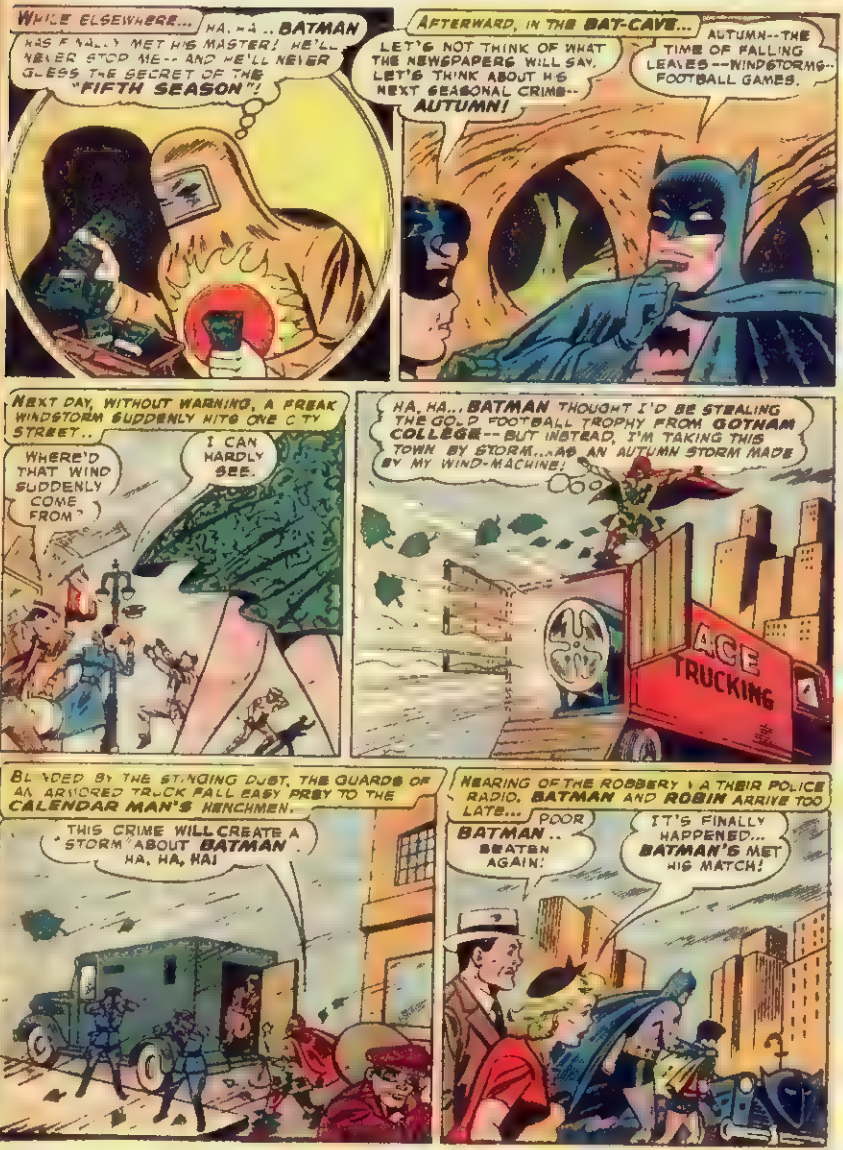
EXACTLY... AND LUCKILY, BRUCE WAYNE IS ONE OF THE JUDGES! SO I'LL BE THERE, **ROBIN** -- WAITING FOR THE **CALENDAR MAN!**

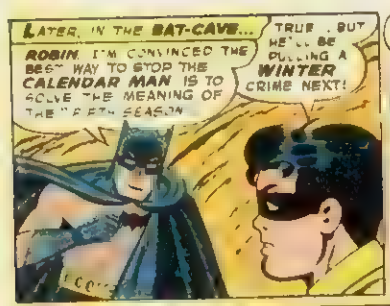
SMAP

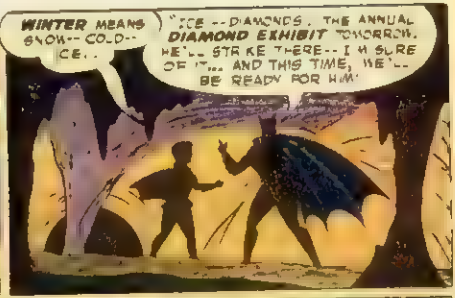

NEXT DAY, AT THE GOTHAM HOTEL'S INDOOR SWIMMING POOL, TV CAMERAS RECORD A PARADE OF BEAUTY...
BUT ONE JUDGE'S EYES ARE CONCENTRATING ELSEWHERE...
HE COULD BE COMING FROM ANYWHERE...THE SIDE DOORS--THE ROOF.
AT THAT MOMENT, LIKE A MINIATURE SUN, A DAZZLING SHAPE DESCENDS FROM THE SKY..
GOTHAM HOTEL
...TO MAKE A DRAMATIC ENTRANCE!
THE CALENDAR MAN--COSTUMED TO SUGGEST THE HEAT OF THE SUMMER SUN!
NOW YOU'LL SEE HEAT--CONCENTRATED HEAT FROM THE MINIATURE ELECTRO-DYNAMO I'VE STRAPPED TO MY WAIST INSIDE MY SUIT!
HSSSSSS...
INSTANTLY, STEAM HISSES FROM THE POOL'S WATER, SHROUDING ALL LIKE A DENSE FOG...
HA! HA! HA!
EEK!
HELP!
EEK!
SSSSSS


IN THE CONFUSION, BRUCE AND DICK SLIP AWAY FOR A SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB...
THERE HE IS-- WITH HIS TWO HENCHMEN! THEY'VE GOT THE PRIZE MONEY!
QUICK, ROBIN-- THE DIVING BOARD.
THE DIVING BOARD BENDS-- AND HURLS TWO LITHE FIGURES ACROSS THE LENGTH OF THE POOL...
YIPE! WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?
QUICKLY, THE CALENDAR MAN SPRINGS TO THE TV SPOTLIGHT NEARBY, AND...
DIDN'T YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T LOOK DIRECTLY AT THE SUN MAN WITHOUT BECOMING TEMPORARILY BLINDED? HA, HA
UHHH-- THAT LIGHT-- CAN'T SEE.
AND BY THE TIME THE EYES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN ADJUST TO NORMAL...
THERE HE GOES-- ALONG THE TERRACE! WE CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE WITH THAT MONEY!
THEY SAY THAT THE SUMMER SUN CAN GET SO HOT, YOU CAN FRY EGGS ON THE SIDEWALK! LET'S SEE IF THAT'S TRUE...
OW! THE WALK'S SO HOT I CAN'T STAND ON IT!
THEN WE'LL HAVE TO CHASE HIM, OFF THE WALK!

FLIPPING FORWARD FROM PENNANT POLE TO PENNANT POLE, THE PAIR CONTINUES ITS PURSUIT...
HE DUCKED INTO THE HALL! WE'VE GOT HIM NOW!
BUT INSIDE, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS HALT BEFORE A FANTASTIC SIGHT...
GET BACK, ROBIN!
WEIRDLY, RED TONGUES OF FLAME FLARE FROM THE CALENDAR MAN, TURNING HIM INTO A MAN OF FIRE!
WE CAN'T GET NEAR HIM NOW?
ROBIN, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY WE CAN "ECLIPSE" THAT "GUN"..
THE BEST METHOD OF SMOTHERING A FIRE IS WITH A RUG!
THAT'S IT, ROBIN--WRAP IT AROUND HIM! MAKE IT TIGHT, SO NO AIR CAN GET IN TO FEED THE FLAMES.
BUT, WHEN THEY FINALLY UNWRAP THE FIGURE...
A DUMMY! A DUMMY WITH A BUILT-IN HEAT GENERATOR THAT HE PLANTED HERE TO BLOCK US FROM STOPPING HIS ESCAPE.
YES, HE ESCAPED--AND WITH THE PRIZE MONEY! THE CALENDAR MAN HAS WON THE SECOND MATCH.


WHILE ELSEWHERE... HA, HA.. BATMAN HAS FINALLY MET HIS MASTER! HE'LL NEVER STOP ME-- AND HE'LL NEVER GUESS THE SECRET OF THE "FIFTH SEASON"!
AFTERWARD, IN THE BAT-CAVE... LET'S NOT THINK OF WHAT THE NEWSPAPERS WILL SAY. LET'S THINK ABOUT HIS NEXT SEASONAL CRIME-- AUTUMN!
AUTUMN--THE TIME OF FALLING LEAVES--WINDSTORMS--FOOTBALL GAMES.
NEXT DAY, WITHOUT WARNING, A FREAK WINDSTORM SUDDENLY HITS ONE CITY STREET..
WHERE'D THAT WIND SUDDENLY COME FROM?
I CAN HARDLY SEE.
HA, HA... BATMAN THOUGHT I'D BE STEALING THE GOLD FOOTBALL TROPHY FROM GOTHAM COLLEGE-- BUT INSTEAD, I'M TAKING THIS TOWN BY STORM...AS AN AUTUMN STORM MADE BY MY WIND-MACHINE!
ACE TRUCKING
BLINDED BY THE STINGING DUST, THE GUARDS OF AN ARMORED TRUCK FALL EASY PREY TO THE CALENDAR MAN'S HENCHMEN.
THIS CRIME WILL CREATE A "STORM" ABOUT BATMAN. HA, HA, HA!
HEARING OF THE ROBBERY VIA THEIR POLICE RADIO, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRIVE TOO LATE...
POOR BATMAN.. BEATEN AGAIN!
IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED... BATMAN'S MET HIS MATCH!


LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE...
ROBIN, I'M CONVINCED THE BEST WAY TO STOP THE CALENDAR MAN IS TO SOLVE THE MEANING OF THE "FOUR SEASONS"
TRUE. BUT HE'LL BE PULLING A WINTER CRIME NEXT!

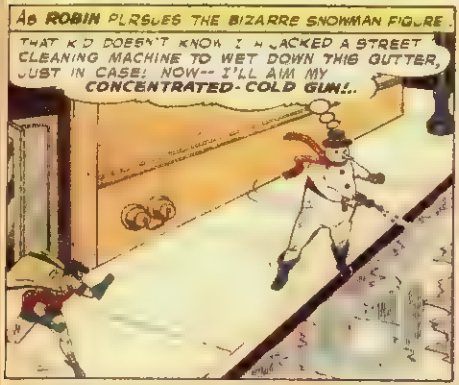

WINTER MEANS SNOW--COLD--ICE..
ICE--DIAMONDS. THE ANNUAL DIAMOND EXHIBIT TOMORROW. HE'LL STRIKE THERE--I'M SURE OF IT... AND THIS TIME, WE'LL BE READY FOR HIM!

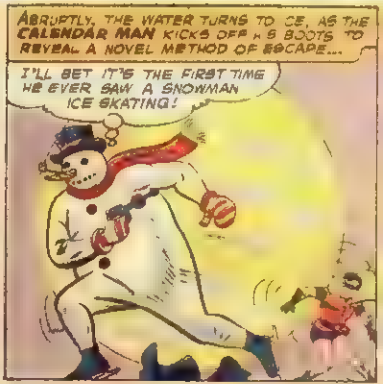
SURE ENOUGH, THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE COLORFUL DIAMOND SHOW...
SNOW?... INSIDE A BUILDING?
IT'S-- SNOWING!
DIAMOND EXHIBIT

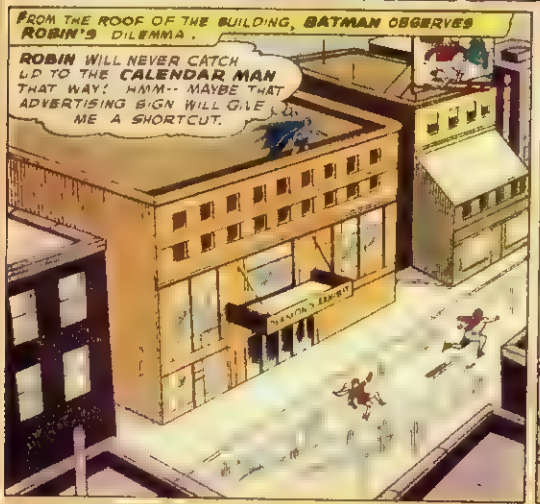
A MOMENT LATER...
HA, HA! ARTIFICIAL SNOW BLOWN THROUGH THE CEILING VENTILATORS! I'VE TAKEN THEM BY SURPRISE! NOW I'LL HELP MYSELF TO THE MOST PRECIOUS DIAMONDS HERE!

YOU TAKE CARE OF HIS PALS, BATMAN-- I'LL GO AFTER THE CALENDAR MAN!

BUT SUDDENLY, BREAKING FROM A GIGANTIC PAPIER-MACHÉ DIAMOND...
BATMAN AND ROBIN!


AS ROBIN PURSUES THE BIZARRE SNOWMAN FIGURE...
THAT KID DOESN'T KNOW I HIJACKED A STREET CLEANING MACHINE TO WET DOWN THIS GUTTER, JUST IN CASE! NOW-- I'LL AIM MY CONCENTRATED-COLD GUN!..


ABRUPTLY, THE WATER TURNS TO ICE, AS THE CALENDAR MAN KICKS OFF HIS BOOTS TO REVEAL A NOVEL METHOD OF ESCAPE...
I'LL BET IT'S THE FIRST TIME HE EVER SAW A SNOWMAN ICE SKATING!


FROM THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING, BATMAN OBSERVES ROBIN'S DILEMMA.
ROBIN WILL NEVER CATCH UP TO THE CALENDAR MAN THAT WAY! HMM-- MAYBE THAT ADVERTISING SIGN WILL GIVE ME A SHORTCUT.

BORROWING THE SKIS FROM THE SIGN, BATMAN ZOOMS DOWN THE SLOPING ROOF OF THE NEARBY BUILDING
OH-OH.
BATMAN'S ALMOST AS TRICKY AS I AM-- BUT ONLY ALMOST!

EVEN AS BATMAN ALIGHTS, THE WILY CALENDAR MAN LEAPS ATOP A VEHICLE HE HAD HIDDEN JUST FOR SUCH AN EMERGENCY
TOO BAD, BATMAN.. YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT MY JET-SLED! HA, HA!
ZOOM!!!

LATER, IT IS A DESPONDENT DUO THAT RETURNS TO THE BAT-CAVE...
TOMORROW'S THE FIFTH DAY--OUR LAST CHANCE TO CATCH HIM. SO FAR WE'VE FAILED, ROBIN-- FAILED TO CATCH HIM OR FIGURE OUT THE MEANING OF THE "FIFTH SEASON"!
IT COULD MEAN ANYTHING--A TIME--HIS HIDEOUT--HIS IDENTITY!
YOU'D HAVE TO BE A MAGICIAN TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT MEANS!
MAGICIAN? OF COURSE!... THAT'S THE ANSWER--AND IT'S RIGHT HERE IN THE NEWSPAPERS THAT FIRST APPEARED WITH THE STORY OF THE CALENDAR MAN'S CHALLENGE!
GOTHAM GAZETTE
APPEARING FOR ONLY FIVE DAYS BEFORE LEAVING FOR EUROPE--MAHARAJAH THE MAGICIAN ON THE STAGE OF THE BIJOU THEATRE!
THAT'S ONE REASON WHY HE HAD TO COMPLETE HIS CRIMES IN FIVE DAYS! HE WOULD ONLY BE IN GOTHAM CITY FOR FIVE DAYS!
SURE...AND ONLY A MAGICIAN COULD HAVE DREAMED UP THOSE TRICKY GIMMICKS HE USED!
SOON, IN HIS ROOM, WHERE THE CALENDAR MAN PLOTS HIS FINAL CRIME...
TOMORROW WILL BRING THE "FIFTH SEASON" CRIME! TOMORROW, I'LL "SEED" THE CLOUDS OVER GOTHAM CITY WITH DRY ICE... TOMORROW, I'LL MAKE IT RAIN!
TOMORROW, YOU'LL BE IN JAIL!
BATMAN AND ROBIN!

DEFTLY, THE TRAINED HAND OF THE MAGICIAN FLASHES TO HIS TURBAN, AND..
ONE THING YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT WAS MY INSTANT-UNWRAPPING TURBAN!
SNIP
AND BEFORE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR SURPRISE
YOU'RE SMART, BATMAN-- BUT I'M SMARTER!
THAT BLACKBOARD - IT'S A CALENDAR OF COMING STAGE ATTRACTIONS-- SO THE STAGE HANDS CAN GET CERTAIN PROPS READY IN ADVANCE!
WEEK OF MARCH 17 SEAL ACT MARCH 24 SHARP-SHOOTER ACT
HOW IRONIC! A CALENDAR TRIPPING UP THE CALENDAR MAN!
THE NEXT CALENDAR HE'LL BE ON IS THE COURT CALENDAR, GIVING THE DATE OF HIS TRIAL!
BATMAN, I KNOW THE AD SAYING THAT HE WAS ONLY APPEARING IN TOWN FOR FIVE DAYS WAS ONE CLUE TO HIS IDENTITY-- BUT WHAT ABOUT THE "FIFTH SEASON"?
IN INDIA, THE NATIVES REFER TO FIVE SEASONS -- THE FIFTH SEASON BEING THE MONSOON OR RAINY SEASON; THAT, PLUS THE FIVE DAYS, ADDED UP TO A MAGICIAN WHO HAD THE INDIAN NAME OF MAHARAJAH!
The End

JOKER

YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT *BATMAN'S* UTILITY BELT! YOU'VE SEEN IT IN ACTION-- SEEN HOW IT HELPED *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* OUT OF MANY A TIGHT SQUEEZE IN THEIR NEVER CEASING WAR AGAINST CRIME!

BUT-- CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN *THE JOKER*, THAT INFAMOUS *CRIME CLOWN*, STEALS A MARCH ON *BATMAN*, AND COMES UP WITH A *UTILITY BELT* OF HIS OWN?

DON'T WASTE A MOMENT-- START READING RIGHT NOW THE STORY CALLED

"The JOKER'S UTILITY BELT!"

JOKER

BATMAN AND ROBIN

ONE EVENING, A WEIRD, EAR-SPLITTING LAUGH PIERCES THE STILLNESS OF A GOTHAM CITY MUSEUM! *THE JOKER* THAT HARLEQUIN OF HATE-- *STRIKES AGAIN!*

HO-HO-HO! SO THEY FAILED TO INCLUDE *ME* IN THIS HALL OF FAME, EH!! *HA-HA!* THAT'LL JUST COST 'EM THEIR *NEW JEWEL COLLECTION!* HO-HO-HO!

GOTHAM MUSEUM of MODERN ART
COMEDIANS HALL of FAME

THE JEWELS ARE IN THE NEXT GALLERY, BOSS!

CHAPLIN

BUT THEN COMES AN UNWELCOME SURPRISE FOR THE *JOKER* --IN THE PERSONS OF *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* --THE EVER VIGILANT LAWMEN!

GOING SOMEWHERE, *JOKER?*

KNOXBOROUGH JEWEL DISPLAY

YOU BET HE IS--*RIGHT TO JAIL!*

BATMAN AGAIN! ALWAYS MY NEMESIS!

AND AS A FIERCE BATTLE RAGES...

A GOOD FIGHT, *JOKER* --BUT YOU'RE FINISHED NOW!

SUDDENLY, THE LARGE PAINTING OVERHEAD IS JARRED FROM ITS HOOK--AND COMES CRASHING DOWN ON *BATMAN!*

BATMAN! BATMAN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

A RARE STROKE OF LUCK! *HO-HO! GRAB THEM!*

HA-HA-HA! TAKE THEM TO THE HIDEOUT--QUICKLY! I WANT TO TOY WITH THEM! HA-HA!

A MOMENT LATER...

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO! GET MOVIN'!

(WHISPER) ROBIN! THEY'VE FORGOTTEN WE HAVE OUR UTILITY BELTS! I'M GOING TO USE THE GAS PELLETS! BE READY WITH YOUR NOSE FILTERS!

I HATE THE SIGHT OF GUNS-- DON'T YOU, ROBIN?

SUDDENLY...

GAS! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

AND LATER...

TOO BAD WE COULDN'T GET THE JOKER, TOO! BUT THE DAY WASN'T ENTIRELY WASTED!

I'LL BET THE JOKER'S PLENTY MAD! WHAT A BLUNDER -- FORGETTING ABOUT OUR UTILITY BELT!

HOW RIGHT ROBIN IS! AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE "JEWEL ROOM" OF THE NOTORIOUS CRIME CLOWN'S HIDEOUT...

ANOTHER PROJECT OF MINE UPSET-- BECAUSE OF BATMAN AND THAT CONFOUNDED UTILITY BELT!

THAT BELT IS MOIDER, BOSS! IT GIVES BATMAN THE EDGE, ALL THE TIME!

KNOXBOROUGH JEWEL COLLECTION

RESERVED

ABRUPTLY, AN IDEA COMES TO THE JOKER— TURNING HIS WRATH TO WICKED JOY!

THE EDGE, EH?? YOU'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA! HO-HO! WHY NOT A UTILITY BELT FOR ME, THE JOKER! MY OWN KIND OF UTILITY BELT! HA-HA-HA! THEN I'LL HAVE THE EDGE! HO-HO! HO!

AND THE NEXT DAY...

WHAT'S COOKIN', BOSS?

MY UTILITY BELT! HA-HA! IT'S ALMOST FINISHED! HERE--HAVE A CIGARETTE, WHILE YOU WATCH...

IN THE NEXT MOMENT.!

HEY--AN EXPLODING CIGARETTE.! WHAT GIVES, BOSS?

HO-HO! THAT'S ONE OF THE GADGETS FOR MY BELT.! BATMAN MAY USE SCIENTIFIC DEVICES--BUT THE JOKER USES JOKES AND TRICK NOVELTIES.! HO, HO, HO.!

I SEE YOU'RE GETTING TOGETHER A LOT OF TRICK STUFF, JOKER --BUT WHAT'S THAT CORK FOR?? IS THAT GOING TO BE IN YOUR BELT-- AN ORDINARY BOTTLE CORK.?

HO-HO-HO.! THAT CORK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT UNIT IN MY BELT.! IT WILL PROVE THE UNDOING OF BATMAN AND ROBIN.! HA-HA-HA!

A FEW DAYS LATER, AS TWO TOP GOTHAM CITY CRIME LORDS MEET WITH THE JOKER --SUPPOSEDLY TO PLAN A MASTER CRIME...

WHAT IS THIS-- A DOUBLE-CROSS? PUT DOWN THOSE GUNS.!

THE JOKE'S ON YOU, JOKER.! THIS IS A HOLD-UP-- AND WE'RE TAKING YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU GOT.!

HE'S CLEAN, CHAMP! NO WEAPONS--NONE OF THEM JOKE GADGETS OF HIS.! WE CAUGHT HIM BY SURPRISE.!

NOT BAD, EH, JOKER.? YOU GOT MORE LOOT HERE THAN ANY OTHER PLACE IN TOWN.! WE ROB YOU, WE RUN NO RISKS.! NO BATMAN AND ROBIN TO WORRY ABOUT.!

UNNOTICED, THE JOKER'S HANDS SLIDE TOWARD HIS UTILITY BELT, PICK OUT A PAIR OF SMALL PILLS WHICH HE IGNITES WITH A CIGARETTE LIGHTER... AND A MOMENT LATER...

LOOK OUT-- SNAKES.! UGLY MONSTERS.!

HA-HA-HA.! I'LL JUST TAKE THOSE GUNS, GENTLEMEN--AND RING FOR SOME OF MY BOYS.!

SOON AFTER...

HO-HO.! TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T KNOW I HAD A UTILITY BELT, TOO.! HA-HA.! AND WHAT AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING FOR MY BELT.!-- HO-HO-HO.!

GEE, THEY SURE LOOK REAL, JOKER.! IT'S TERRIFIC HOW THEY KIN EXPLODE OUTA THOSE LITTLE PILLS YOU CARRY.!

NEXT EVENING IN THE PALATIAL HOME OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

BOY, THIS MODEL IS A BEAUTY, BRUCE,' AS CHIEF STOCKHOLDER OF THE STEAMSHIP LINE, YOU CAN BE PROUD OF YOUR NEW SHIP.'

I AM.' AND I'M ALSO PROUD THAT *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* WERE SELECTED TO CHRISTEN THE S.S. GOTHAM AT ITS LAUNCHING CEREMONY NEXT MONTH.'

ALL AT ONCE, AN EERIE BEAM STABS THROUGH THE SKY -- THE *BAT-SIGNAL*.'

SPEAKING OF *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*--LOOKS LIKE WE'RE WANTED RIGHT NOW.'

RIGHT.' AND I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF OUR FRIEND, *THE JOKER*, WERE THE REASON.'

A QUICK CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* RUSH TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS.'

THE *JOKER*, *BATMAN*.' HE'S LOOTED THE BOX OFFICE AT THE *CIVIC OPERA*.'

THEN *WE'RE* GOING TO THE OPERA, TOO.'

MEANWHILE, AS THE *JOKER* FLEES BACKSTAGE AT THE OPERA...

I'VE BLUNDERED-- TOO MANY COPS AND GUARDS.' THEY PROBABLY GUESSED I, THE *GREAT CLOWN* THAT I AM, COULDN'T RESIST AN OPERA LIKE "PAGLIACCI"!

THEN, AS THE *JOKER* RUNS INTO A DEAD END, AND IS CAPTURED...

I'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE--THANKS TO MY UTILITY BELT.' I'LL MAKE BELIEVE I'M HITCHING UP MY TROUSERS...

THEY'RE UNARMED.' PUT THE *CUFFS* ON THE *JOKER*, MAC.' HE'LL PULL NO MORE TRICKS ON US.'

AS THE POLICEMAN GRABS THE *JOKER'S* HANDS, READY TO SLIP ON THE HANDCUFFS...

OUCH! *HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON!?*

HA-HA! JUST THE *DIVERSION* I NEEDED! *GET GOING, MEN! WE'VE THROWN THEM OFF-GUARD!*

BUZZ!

THEN, AS THE *JOKER* AND HIS MEN MAKE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE...

HA-HA! MY *UTILITY BELT* PAYS OFF AGAIN! I FIND IT VERY USEFUL! *HO-HO!*

A HAND-BUZZER! BOY--IT SURE *STARTLED* THAT COP!

AND WHEN *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* HEAR THE STORY AT THE OPERA HOUSE...

HE DIDN'T HAVE THAT BUZZER ON, WHILE WE WERE CHASING HIM. HE PULLED IT OUT OF SOMEWHERE, AT THE VERY LAST MOMENT!

HMMM! LOOKS LIKE THE *JOKER* HAS A NEW ANGLE, *ROBIN.* I EXPECT WE'LL BE SEEING SOME MORE OF IT.

LATER...

YOU KNOW SOMETHING, BOSS? YOU NEVER *DID* SHOW US *ALL* THE STUFF YOU GOT IN THAT BELT! HOW ABOUT IT?

HA-HA! CERTAINLY, BOYS--CERTAINLY! COME--I'VE GOT A LARGE CROSS-SECTION DIAGRAM OF IT UPSTAIRS!

AND THIS IS WHAT THE *CRIME CLOWN* SHOWS HIS MEN!

The JOKER'S UTILITY BELT

HAND BUZZER

SNAKE PELLETS

SNEEZING POWDER CAPSULES

ITCHING POWDER CAPSULES

WATER-SQUIRTING POLICE BADGE WITH BULB AND HOSE ATTACHED

FALSE CIGARETTE PACK, WITH JUMPING JACK MECHANISM INSIDE

EXPLODING CIGARETTES

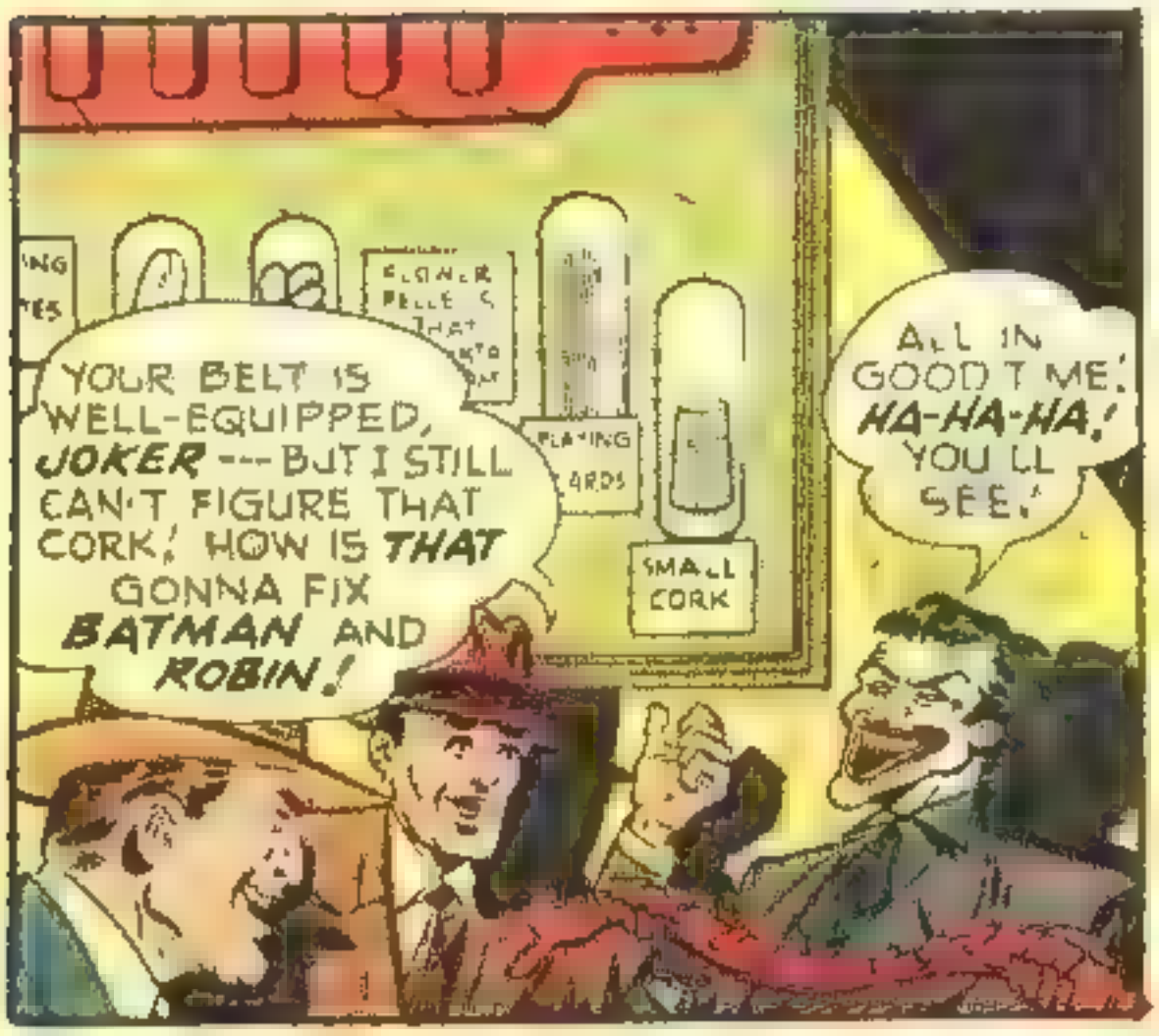
EYEPIECE WHICH LEAVES VIEWER WITH A BLACK EYE

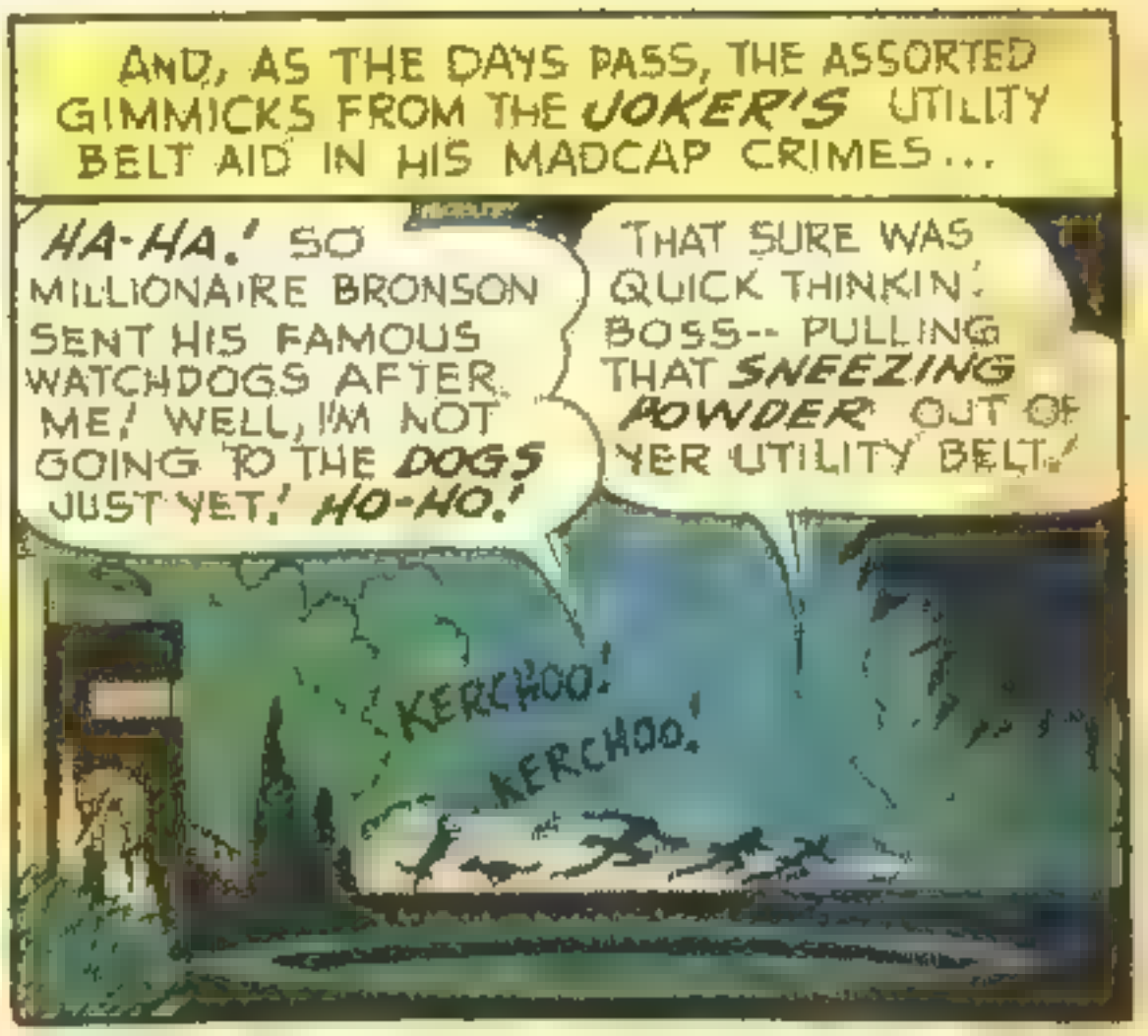
MEXICAN JUMPING BEANS

FLOWER PELLETS THAT BURST INTO BLOOM

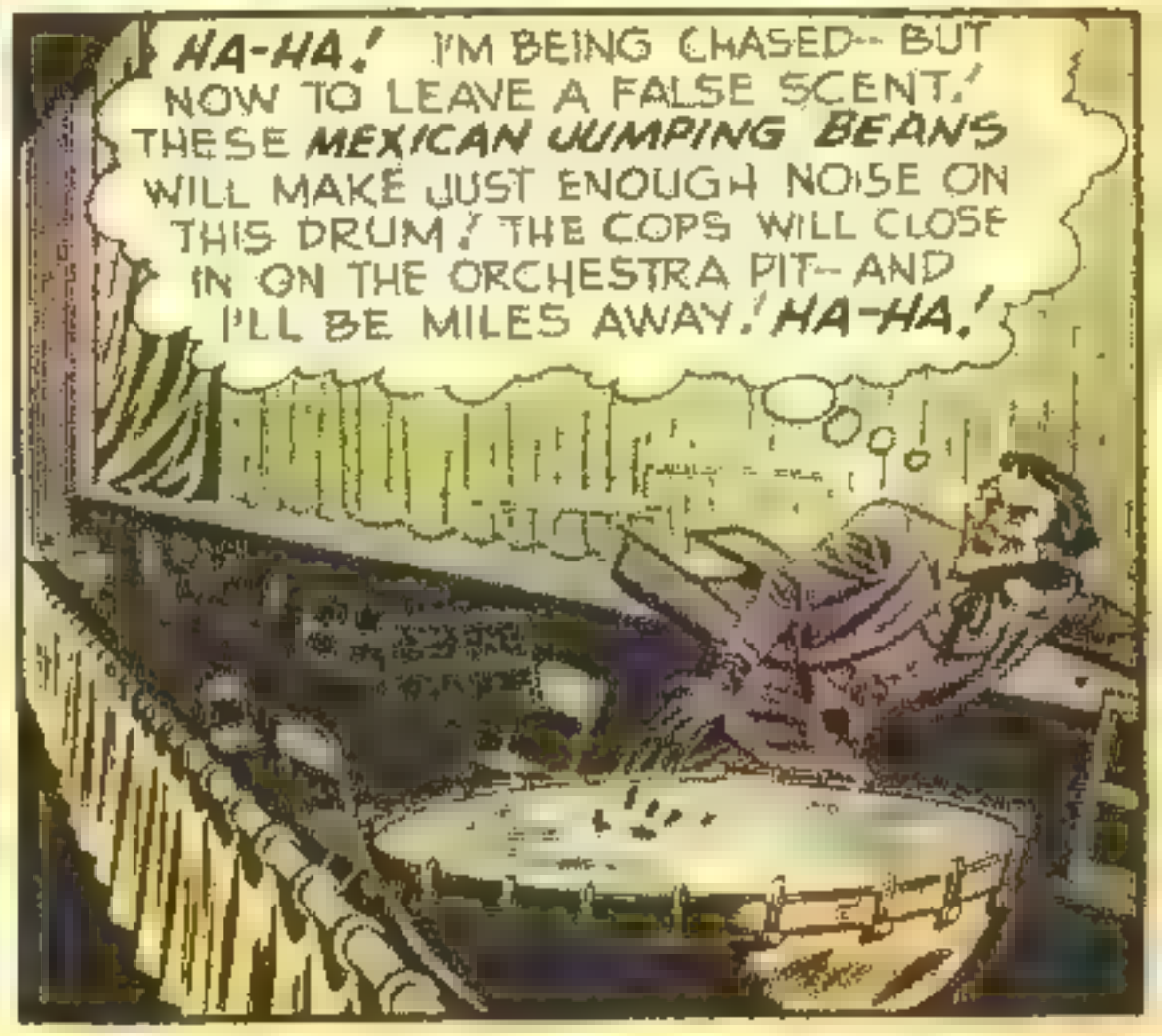
PLAYING CARDS

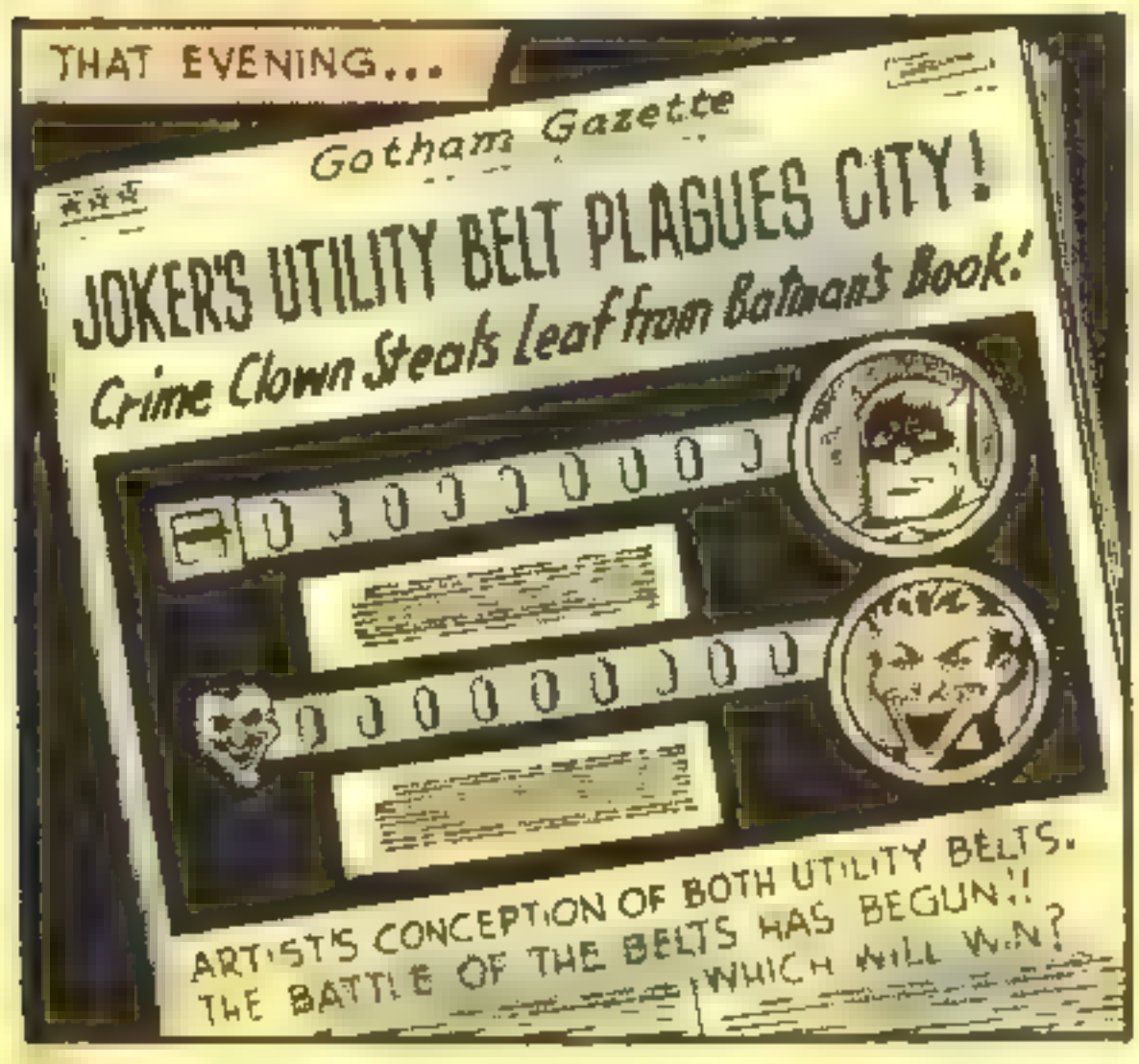
SMALL CORK

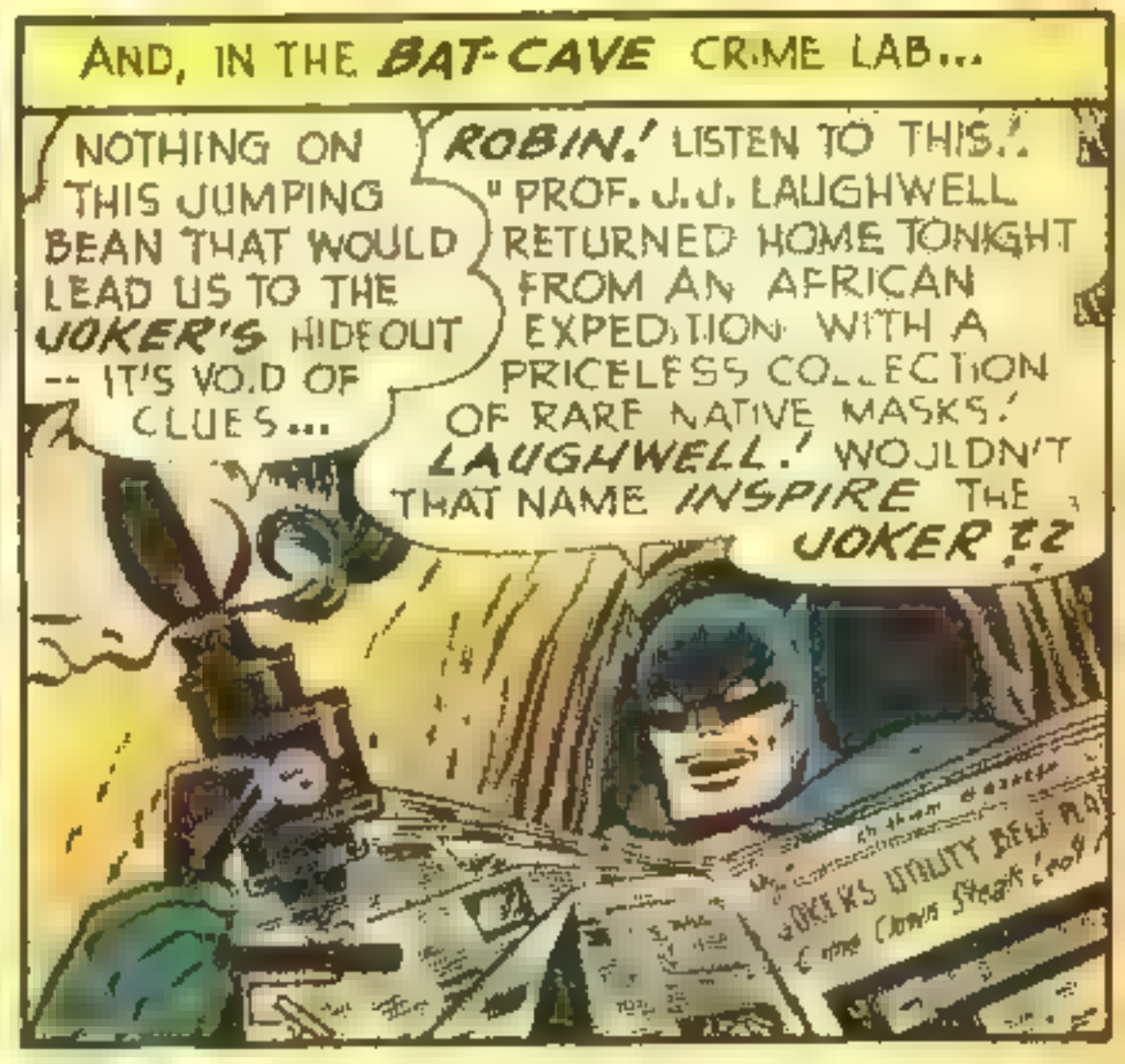

YOUR BELT IS WELL-EQUIPPED, JOKER --- BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE THAT CORK! HOW IS THAT GONNA FIX BATMAN AND ROBIN!
PLAYING ARDS
SMALL CORK
ALL IN GOOD T ME! HA-HA-HA! YOU LL SEE!


AND, AS THE DAYS PASS, THE ASSORTED GIMMICKS FROM THE JOKER'S UTILITY BELT AID IN HIS MADCAP CRIMES...
HA-HA! SO MILLIONAIRE BRONSON SENT HIS FAMOUS WATCHDOGS AFTER ME! WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO THE DOGS JUST YET! HO-HO!
THAT SURE WAS QUICK THINKIN', BOSS-- PULLING THAT SNEEZING POWDER OUT OF YER UTILITY BELT!
KERCHOO! KERCHOO!

HA-HA! YOU'RE JUST A ROOKIE! YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A HERO! YOU CAPTURED ME ALL BY YOURSELF! BUT YOU COULDN'T RESIST STARING AT THE BADGE I SLIPPED ONTO MY LAPEL!


HA-HA! I'M BEING CHASED-- BUT NOW TO LEAVE A FALSE SCENT! THESE MEXICAN JUMPING BEANS WILL MAKE JUST ENOUGH NOISE ON THIS DRUM! THE COPS WILL CLOSE IN ON THE ORCHESTRA PIT-- AND I'LL BE MILES AWAY! HA-HA!


THAT EVENING...
Gotham Gazette
JOKER'S UTILITY BELT PLAGUES CITY!
Crime Clown Steals Leaf from Batman's Book!
ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF BOTH UTILITY BELTS. THE BATTLE OF THE BELTS HAS BEGUN!! WHICH WILL WIN?


AND, IN THE BAT-CAVE CRIME LAB...
NOTHING ON THIS JUMPING BEAN THAT WOULD LEAD US TO THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT -- IT'S VOID OF CLUES...
ROBIN! LISTEN TO THIS!. "PROF. J.J. LAUGHWELL RETURNED HOME TONIGHT FROM AN AFRICAN EXPEDITION WITH A PRICELESS COLLECTION OF RARE NATIVE MASKS! LAUGHWELL! WOULDN'T THAT NAME INSPIRE THE JOKER ?!

AN HOUR LATER, IN PROFESSOR LAUGHWELL'S PRIVATE STUDIO...

THERE HE IS, ROBIN-- WE WERE RIGHT.'

AH, BATMAN.' NOW TO HAVE SOME FUN-- IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT.' HO-HO.'

AND ONCE MORE, THE DEADLY ENEMIES OF GOTHAM CITY CLASH IN HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.'

THIS IS ONE TIME YOUR UTILITY BELT ISN'T GOING TO SAVE YOU, JOKER.'

HA-HA.' YOURS WON'T BE MUCH HELP EITHER, I DARE SAY.' HO-HO.'

SUDDENLY, THE AGILE CRIME-JESTER WRIGGLES FROM BATMAN'S GRASP.' AND THEN...

HOLD IT ROBIN.' THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH.' TIME TO SHOW WHAT A UTILITY BELT CAN DO.' PREPARE FOR GAS.'

QUICKLY BATMAN SEIZES HIS GAS PELLETS, HURLS THEM THROUGH THE AIR.' BUT THEN -- BEFORE HIS AMAZED EYES.'

BATMAN.' DID YOU SEE THAT.'? THOSE GAS-PELLETS BURST INTO FLOWERS.'

HO-HO.' I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D THROW ME BOUQUETS, BATMAN.' HA-HA.'

HIS GAS PELLETS GONE, BATMAN FRANTICALLY HURLS HIS SMOKE PELLETS.' BUT-- MORE AMAZEMENT.'

ROBIN-- THOSE WERE MY SMOKE PELLETS.' BUT LOOK-- THEY'VE BURST INTO FLAGS.' I DON'T UNDERSTAND.'

HO-HO-HO.' I'VE NEVER HAD SO MUCH FUN.' HA-HA.'

POOR BATMAN.

PHOOEY ON ROBIN.

PHOOEY ON BATMAN.

HURRAH FOR THE JOKER.

SUDDENLY, THE *JOKER* DARTS FOR A DARK CORNER! AND AS *BATMAN* FISHES FOR HIS POWERFUL UTILITY BELT FLASHLIGHT...

THIS IS *TOO MUCH!* A JACK-IN-THE-BOX!

BUT-- *HOW?* HOW COULD THE *JOKER* TAMPER WITH YOUR *UTILITY BELT?*

HO-HO-HO-HO! HA-HA-HA-HA!!

AND THEN, AS THE SIMPLE ANSWER COMES TO THE DYNAMIC DUO...

LOOK! THIS *ISN'T MY BELT*---BUT A CLEVER IMITATION WHICH FITTED RIGHT OVER MINE! THE *JOKER* MUST HAVE SLIPPED IT ON ME WHILE WE WERE STRUGGLING!

NO WONDER EVERYTHING WENT HAYWIRE! WELL-- IT'S TOO LATE NOW! THE *JOKER'S* GONE...

LATER...

I'M AFRAID WE WERE MADE TO LOOK LIKE FOOLS, *ROBIN!* BUT AT LEAST WE GAINED ONE OBJECTIVE. WE PREVENTED ANOTHER *JOKER CRIME!*

RIGHT! IT'S SMALL CONSOLATION-- BUT AT LEAST IT'S SOME-THING!

A FEW DAYS LATER...

MEN--THE DAY WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR IS ALMOST HERE-- THE DAY WHEN *THIS CORK* MARKS THE DOWNFALL OF *BATMAN AND ROBIN!* HO-HO!

BATMAN IS CLEVER-- BUT SO AM I! I KNOW THE ONLY WAY I CAN DEFEAT HIM IS TO CATCH HIM OFF-GUARD. THIS CORK WILL DO THAT--*AS THE CORK IN THE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE WITH WHICH BATMAN WILL LAUNCH THE S.S. GOTHAM TOMORROW!*

AND THAT EVENING, IN THE OFFICES OF THE GOTHAM STEAMSHIP COMPANY...

FINISHED, *JOKER!* WE PUT *YOUR* CORK IN THE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE, RE-SEALED IT WITH WAX! NOW WHAT??

HA-HA! NOW WE PUT THE BOTTLE BACK WHERE WE FOUND IT! TOMORROW, WHEN *BATMAN* FLINGS IT AGAINST THE PROW OF THE SHIP, PARALYZING *GAS* WILL ESCAPE FROM THAT CORK! IT WILL BE SIMPLE TO WHISK *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* OFF!

NEXT DAY, WITH THE LAUNCHING CEREMONIES ABOUT TO BEGIN...

HERE'S THE BOTTLE, BATMAN. WE SHOULD BE READY IN A FEW MINUTES.'

THANK YOU...

HMM--THAT'S FUNNY.'

ROBIN-- NOTICE THE COLOR OF THE WAX--IT HASN'T FADED AT ALL.' YET THIS IS 1936 CHAMPAGNE-- AND PARAFFIN WAX IS KNOWN TO DISCOLOR WITH AGE.'

WHICH MEANS THAT BOTTLE MAY HAVE BEEN TAMPERED WITH --AND RE-SEALED.' WE'D BETTER NOT TAKE CHANCES.' I'LL GET ANOTHER ONE.'

'SOON AFTER...

WORSE LUCK! THAT SHARP-EYED BATMAN MUST HAVE SPOTTED SOMETHING! THEY'VE CHANGED BOTTLES--ALL MY PLANNING HAS FAILED.'

THEN, AS THE GREAT SHIP IS LAUNCHED.'

... AND I NAME YOU THE S.S. GOTHAM.'

HURRAH.' BON VOYAGE.' GOOD LUCK.'

SUDDENLY, AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT!

I WANT TO HAVE FUN, TOO.' HURRAH.'

SHE TOOK THE ORIGINAL BOTTLE AND THREW IT.' AND LOOK-- SOME SORT OF GAS.'

WHAT A LUCKY BREAK.' HO-HO.' COME ON, MEN.'

BEFORE THE VAUNTED LAWMEN CAN TAKE ANY PRECAUTIONS, THEY ARE STRUCK BY THE POWERFUL GAS; AND AS THE JOKER TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION...

HELP! (GASP) (COUGH!)

HURRY, MEN.' I CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK TO THE HIDEOUT WITH OUR PRIZES.' I MUST DREAM UP A SPECIAL FATE FOR THESE TWO.'

AND LATER, AT THE *JOKER'S* HIDEOUT, THAT SPECIAL FATE IS READY FOR THE TWO CAPTURED CRIME-FIGHTERS.'

HA-HA-HA! NOW THAT I'VE WON THE BATTLE OF THE *UTILITY BELTS*-- I'VE GOT ANOTHER *BELT FOR YOU, BATMAN.' A CONVEYOR BELT.' HO-HO-HO.'*

WHAT A GAG.' ONCE THEY'RE ON THAT BELT, THEY'LL RUN THEMSELVES RAGGED TRYIN' TO PREVENT BEING DRAGGED INTO THE FIRE.'

HA-HA! LET'S SEE HOW *ROBIN* RUNS, FIRST.' START THE MOTOR! START THE *BELT MOVING.' HO-HO.'*

THE FIEND.'

HO-HO-HO.' I GET A *TERRIFIC BELT* OUT OF THIS.'

POOR KID.' I'VE GOT TO STRIP THAT MOTOR.'

THE *JOKER'S* UTILITY BELT-- IF I CAN JUST SLIP MY HAND INSIDE IT WITHOUT BEING SEEN.'

BATMAN'S STARING AT THE *JOKER'S* UTILITY BELT.' HOW CAN *THAT* SILLY BAG OF TRICKS BE OF ANY HELP?

UNNOTICED, *BATMAN'S* DEFT FINGERS SLIP INTO A COMPARTMENT OF THE *JOKER'S* UTILITY BELT.' A MOMENT LATER...

THE *SNAKE PELLETS.'* NOW TO PROPEL THEM THE WAY A CHILD PROPELS A MARBLE.' THE MOTOR'S HEAT SHOULD PRODUCE THE SNAKES!

WHAT IN THE WORLD...! YOUR *TRICK SNAKES, JOKER.'* THEY'VE FOULED UP THE GEARS-STOPPED THE MOTOR.'

IN THE NEXT MOMENT...

NOW, ROBIN.' LEAP CLEAR.'

MY BELT.' BATMAN'S GRABBED MY BELT.'

AND THEN AS *BATMAN* RANSACKS THE *JOKER'S* BELT, PANDEMONIUM BREAKS OUT.'

KERCHOO!

SNEEZING POWDER.'

OWW! MY EYE.'

I CAN'T STAND IT.' ITCHING POWDER ALL OVER ME.'

GIVE ME THAT SQUIRTING BADGE, *BATMAN*-- I'VE GOT AN IDEA.'

NICE OF YOUR CONVEYOR-BELT MOTOR TO HAVE A FULL CUP OF *OIL, JOKER.'* MAKES EVERYTHING RUN SO *SMOOTHLY.'*

HOLD 'EM, *ROBIN.'* I'LL HAVE THIS CONVEYOR BELT LOOSE IN A JIFFY.'

(GASP!) CAN'T SEE.'

A SECOND LATER...

WOW.' THIS IS THE *BIGGEST CATCH* WE EVER *HAULED* IN.'

I ALWAYS SAY-- ONE GOOD BELT DESERVES ANOTHER.'

AHH! THAT MAKES THE PICTURE PERFECT.' YOU'LL BE THE HIT OF THE *FLOWER SHOW, JOKER*--IF THEY HAVE ONE IN THE *STATE PENITENTIARY.'*

YOU KNOW SOMETHING, *JOKER?* YOU HAVE A FINE *UTILITY BELT.'* WITHOUT IT, WE MIGHT NEVER HAVE CAPTURED *YOU.'*

AND LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

HERE HE IS, COMMISSIONER--YOUR OLD FRIEND, THE *JOKER.'* SEEMS HE DIDN'T KNOW *HOW* USEFUL HIS *UTILITY BELT* COULD BE.'

BELTS, *BELTS.'* I'VE HAD ENOUGH WITH *BELTS.'* ALL I WANT TO DO IS FORGET *THEM.'*

THAT'S TOO BAD, *JOKER.'* YOU SEE-- I'VE ALREADY RECOMMENDED THAT *YOU* BE MADE *FOREMAN* AT THE BELT FACTORY IN THE PRISON.' WE NEED A MAN WITH *YOUR* EXPERIENCE.'

OH, *NO.!'*

THE END